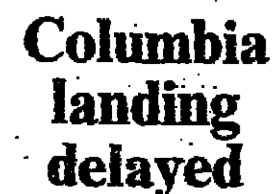
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Columbia landing delayed

The return to earth of the Columbia space shuttle was postponed for 24 hours because of high winds at its landing site in New Mexico. The decision was made just 39 minutes before the space craft was due to come out of orbit for reentry. The astronauts have enough food and fuel for a further 72 hours in space.

Begin wins by slim majority

Mr Menachem Begin's government appears to have survived another crisis when the Israeli Knesset approved a supplementary budget of £1,225m by 59 votes to 57

West Bank tension, page 8

Doubts over 16-plus exam

Uncertainty surrounding the proposed single 16-plus examination deepened when Sir Keith Joseph, Secretary of State for Education, said the Government had not decided whether to replace the present dual system of O levels and CSEs. Page 3

Tory MPs back anti-strike move

Twenty Conservative MPs have declared their support for changes in the Employment Bill which would allow employers affected by strikes in their own or other companies works to suspend employees without pay Page 2

Russians turn to China

The Russians appear to be abandoning attempts at dialogue with President Reagan, whom they regard as implacably anti-Moscow and instead are concentrating their international efforts on improving relations with China (Michael Binyon writes from Moscow). Page 9

Parties share Salvador vote

Negotiations for a coalition government began in El Salvador as early returns from Sunday's elections showed President Duarte's Christian Democrats winning 40 per cent of the vote and the extreme right-wing Arena taking 30 per cent Page 7

DPP's inquiry on baby death

The Director of Public Prosecution is to examine the case of Dr Peter Huntingford, a hostal consultant in Kent, who recently admitted causing the death of a grossly handicapped baby in 1959.

Dollar boosted

The dollar came in for a fresh boost yesterday on world money markets as trends indicated that American interest rates could move sharply upwards within the next few weeks. Page 15

Rugby setback

Sponsors of a plan to hold a world cup for rugby union in Britain face a stumbling block with the movement of South Africa. Twelve countries are due to take part in the tournament in 1985 Page 21

Geoff Hunt out

Geoff Hunt, the winner of the British Squash Open for the past six years, has dropped out of this year's event at Bromley because of a back injury. Page 21

Alliance will end British nuclear force says Steel

By Jonathan Wills

Mr David Steel is in no doubt that under a Social Democratic/Liberal Alliance government, Britain would eventually cease to have any independent nuclear deterrent, although the Young Liberals failed to get a majority for unilateral nuclear disarmament at the Scottish Liberal Conference at the weekend.

In an interview with *The Times*, the Liberal leader made clear that for him the issue was not whether the Trident missile would be cancelled and Polaris phased out, but when.

Mr Steel admitted that the question was "slightly tricky" for the alliance, "simply because the Liberal Party has always been against the independent nuclear deterrent". They had a clear, principled commitment against the deterrent, "not just an economic argument".

In fact, as reported in *The Times* on March 12, Mr Steel has stated that Polaris should be "phased out as soon as possible" and the "slightly tricky" and "not substantial" difficulty for the alliance is finding a compromise between that statement and the SDP policy of maintaining Polaris into the 1990s.

Mr Steel agreed that people were not clear where the Alliance stood on phasing out Polaris. "Nor am I", he said, "the truth is that this is a matter which we have not yet sat down to discuss between ourselves and the SDP.

"We are both against Trident. We both accept that Polaris has a limited life, and therefore the only point we have to discuss is one of timing." The area of difficulty was, he believed, "not substantial". He had asked the Liberal defence panel to meet the SDP to talk about it.

Over the past six months he had responded to strong pressure on disarmament within the party and from the public by exploring the possibility of a European initiative on nuclear arms. He believed, as did his colleagues in Germany and Italy, that the European partners of Nato could do much more to influence the course of superpower disarmament.

Mr Steel had good reason to be pleased with the St Andrews conference. The nuclear debate was the only one that threatened to disturb the euphoric mood of unity created by the Hillhead, Glasgow, by-election result and Mr Roy Jenkins's triumphal reception by the Scottish Liberals.

While not in the least resenting the publicity showered upon the SDP, Mr Steel clearly felt that it was time to remind the public of the Liberals' own distinctive radical and progressive traditions.

It was "a caricature" to suggest that the SDP was a left-of-centre party with the Liberals pulling the Social Democrats to the right. If anything it was the other way round, he said.

"On a number of issues, perhaps the Liberal Party still has a rather sharper left-of-centre cutting edge." Examples were disarmament and racial disadvantage.

Although elated by the Hillhead result, Mr Steel believed that the SDP was "mistaken in constantly relying on the academic application of swings rather than on one that exists on the ground.

"Those who are basing their political expectations on that sort of exercise are fundamentally wrong", he said.

Mr Steel was prepared to put his money on no party gaining an overall majority at the next general election. In that event the alliance would be willing to support a government in office "for as

Continued on back page, col 4



Flyer home in record time

Dutch yacht Flyer (above), built and skippered by Cornelis van Rietschoten (below), is first across the finishing line at Portsmouth in the fourth and finalstage of the Round the World race from Mar del Plata, Argentina. The 76-foot sloop, with her 14-strong crew, took 120 days for the voyage, beating by 14 days the four-year-old record set by Chay Blyth in Great Britain 2. But the winner of the 27,000 nautical miles race — on adjusted time — looks likely to be the French yacht, Charles Heidsieck 3, skippered by Alain Gabbay. Last night she was lying third in the Azores, about 600 miles from Portsmouth, and was expected to arrive in about four days. Page 21

Carrington to speak on Falklands

By Denis Taylor

Lord Carrington is flying back to London from the EEC summit meeting in Brussels today to make a statement in the House of Lords on the crisis with Argentina over the British South Atlantic territory of South Georgia. A parallel statement will be made in the Commons.

The Foreign Secretary had originally intended to travel direct from Brussels to Israel on an official visit. He will now go via London, arriving a couple of hours later than planned.

Intensive diplomatic negotiations continued yesterday to try to find a formula capable of resolving the crisis. The dispute was sparked by the British discovery that a party of about 50 Argentines had gone to South Georgia without official authorization and had raised the Argentine flag. The territory is a dependency of the Falkland Islands 800 miles away, which Argentina claims.

The Argentines have a commercial contract to remove scrap from the old whaling facilities at Leith Harbour. Most of the party who arrived there on March 18, left after a British protest. The flag was also lowered.

But the British Government estimates that between six and 10 of the scrap merchants are still in South Georgia.

No official comment was available in London yesterday about the position of several Argentine vessels. A supply ship, the Bahia Paraiso, and two missile-carrying corvettes were said on Sunday to be in the area of South Georgia. Two other Argentine naval vessels were said to have left port for the south Atlantic during the weekend.

The Ministry of Defence in London denied yesterday that the dispatch of 42 Marines to Port Stanley in the Falklands meant a doubling of the garrison. A spokesman said that they were a replacement for the present detachment.

Nevertheless, there will be some overlap. The relief detachment is on its way from Montevideo on the Antarctic survey vessel, the John Biscoe.

Normally, the Marines would have travelled on the Royal Navy patrol ship Endurance, but she is off South Georgia with about 12 Marines from the Port Stanley garrison on board.

□ Buenos Aires: A politician from one of Argentina's suspended political parties has called for an Argentine invasion of the Falkland islands as tension over the status of the British colony runs high (Reuter reports). Senor Luis Leon, the leader of a leftist Radical Party Faction, has told reporters: "This is necessary for the preservation of our sovereignty and (national) dignity."

French attitude on EEC cash hardens

From Ian Murray and Peter Norman, Brussels, March 29

France hardened its position against a settlement of the long-running argument over Britain's EEC budget contribution during the course of the European summit in Brussels today.

President François Mitterrand made what a British spokesman described as "a not very positive response" for the formula for resolving the problem, which is due to be discussed by European foreign ministers in Luxembourg on Saturday.

Mrs Margaret Thatcher had raised the subject of Britain's budget contribution in a two and a half minute statement to the heads of government after they had spent the afternoon discussing the economic and social situation in the Community.

She said she hoped that after all the delay the formula to be discussed on Saturday meant that the negotiations were seriously under way again and that the foreign ministers would be able to reach a solution not only on the budget problem but on agricultural reform and on instituting new Community policies.

She said it was essential that the Community should have a period of stability with the subject taken out of the political arena for a substantial period without the need for renegotiation every two or three years.

Before the meeting began Lord Carrington the Foreign Secretary, had sent a letter to Mr Leo Tindermans, President of the Council of Ministers, saying that Britain was looking for a five-year settlement rather than the three-year package with a further two-year stage negotiated in 1984 which is suggested in the formula.

Mr Thatcher insisted that there should be a fair deal on a suitable scale even though Britain did expect to continue to be a modest net contributer in any settlement.

M Mitterand then made the only comment given by the other leaders, saying that in the French view the formula to be discussed on Saturday could not be accepted as it stood, even though he said, enigmatically, France accepted the methodology.

In the main discussion on economic and social policy in the Community, Mrs Thatcher had emphasized the importance of what she termed "restraint in consumption and increased investment".

Even so, she said that not all investment was seeking ... as an example ... out her hundreds of ... her business ... pounds had bee... Britain being p... steel, car and ... industries.

The meeting bi... Wilfried Martens... Prime Minister, af... current President of ... to his fellow leaders to tackle "head on" the economic and social problems facing the Communists.

Gloomy party, page 5

Trident the only way, says Nott

By Hugh Noyes, Parliamentary Correspondent

Mr John Nott, Secretary of State for Defence, maintained in the Commons yesterday that it would be dangerous folly for Britain to abandon her nuclear role while vigorously reaffirming that the Government's overriding duty was to strive towards multilateral disarmament.

It was not necessary to be a pacifist, unilateralist or a socialist to see the essential delivery systems, each armed with multiple warheads, said the Secretary of State. On the other hand it would be an immensely dangerous and irresponsible act to tear down the present structure before a better one was firmly within our grasp.

Opening the debate on the choice of the Trident 2 (D5) missile system to succeed Polaris as the basis for maintaining a British strategic nuclear deterrent, Mr Nott told the House that a submarine-launched ballistic missile was the only effective way to ensure the credibility of that deterrent into the 21st century. The Trident D5 was the most cost-effective way of ensuring this country's needs when Polaris ceased to be credible.

The Secretary of State went some way to dispel fears that involvement by British firms in the Trident programme would be far less than at first envisaged. He told MPs that an American team would visit the United Kingdom next month to brief British firms on the range of components for which they would be able to compete.

It would not be possible at present to quantify the proportion of work likely to go to British companies but it was likely that in some cases it would be up to 80 per cent although elsewhere it would be only 10 per cent. Mr Nott added that the programme would provide £4,000m-worth of extra work for British industry.

It was clear, however, that disapproval of the Government's choice of Trident went beyond the ranks of the unilateralists on the Labour benches, taking in the Social Democrats, the Liberals and a small number of malcontents even on the Conservative back benches.

Indeed, while Mr Nott had little difficulty in demolishing the case against Trident put forward by Mr John Silkin, Labour's defence spokesman, he was less at ease with those who advocated other alternatives to Polaris and the retention of a nuclear deterrent.

Parliamentary report, page 4

Fowler refuses to raise pay offer to nurses

By Annabel Ferriman, Health Services Correspondent

Industrial action by nurses in the health service was brought a step closer yesterday by the Government's refusal to increase its offer above 6.4 per cent.

Mr David Williams, leader of the staff side of the nurses Whitley Council, who had led a delegation of nurses' leaders to a meeting with Mr Norman Fowler, Secretary of State for Social Services, said afterwards it was clear the Government would not increase its offer through further negotiations.

"If the Government is to be changed in its attitude, it will be changed only by industrial action, although I am not advocating it here now," Mr Williams, assistant general secretary of the Confederation of Health Services Employees, said.

The staff side of the Whitley Council is to meet the management side next Tuesday, and if no increase is made the nurses' unions will be balloting their members over the offer and the kind of industrial action they might want to take, he said.

Mr Fowler said the Government had recognized the position of nurses by offering more than the 4 per cent being offered to other health service workers, and by offering them a new permanent arrangement for negotiating their pay.

£3,300 off top car in Ford cuts

By Peter Waymark
Motoring Correspondent

The Ford Motor Company is cutting prices on most of its models byt an average of 4½ to 5 per cent from Thursday. Savings include £84 on the 1.3 Escort and £3,300, including additional equipment, on the Granada Ghia at the top of the range.

Mr Sam Toy, Ford's chairman, said the move had been partly prompted by public confusion over lower prices for cars in some Continental countries.

He disclosed that the number of Ford cars imported privately from Europe last had risen steeply from 70 in January to 340 in December.

Mr Toy said the price gap was causing confusion on the British market and he believed that potential customers were holding back to see what happened.

The total amount involved in Ford's price-cutting programme is about £200m. Mr Toy said it had been made possible by dealers taking lower profit margins and increased productivity and its cost should also be contained by extra sales.

The Cortina range is not affected by the cuts and prices will go up by 4 per cent on Thursday.

□ The Ford cuts: while not leading to a big price war in the car showrooms, could signal a sustained period of stability in the United Kingdom market (Edward Townsend writes).

British manufacturers, particularly BL, are hoping that if they can peg their domestic prices, European producers will raise theirs to more realistic levels and narrow the gap between British and Continental prices.

Dr Runcie sounds a papal warning

By Clifford Longley, Religious Affairs Correspondent

The Archbishop of Canterbury and the General Synod of the Church of England were not "about to accept definitions of papal jurisdiction and infallibility made in the nineteenth century by the First Vatican Council", the archbishop, Dr Robert Runcie, said yesterday.

He was commenting on the publication of the final report of the findings of a joint commission of theologians. The commission, as reported in *The Times* on March 3, recommends that a basis of unity between the Anglican Communion and the Roman Catholic Church could be found in a "universal primacy" exercised by the Bishop of Rome (the Pope). The universal primate should have the capacity to exert authority over the church, and the right to teach authoritatively, in accordance with his role of supporting the church's unity, the commission concludes.

At a press conference at Lambeth Palace, London, yesterday, the Anglican co-chairman of the commission, the Archbishop of Dublin, the Most Rev Henry McAdoo, said that there remained an area of disagreement over papal infallibility. The Anglican tradition could not accept that there could be attributed to the Pope "the guaranteed possession of such a gift of divine assistance in judgment necessarily attached to the office of Bishop of Rome by virtue of which his formal decisions can be known to be wholly assured before their reception by the faithful".

This was a direct quotation from the commission's report, and probably the most carefully worded passage in the whole document. It is a reservation on the Anglican side which is balanced by a declaration that a universal primate would have to have, inherent in his office, a defined teaching authority "and the appropriate gifts of the Spirit to enable him to discharge it".

Dr McAdoo also emphasized that doctrines defined by past Popes' "infallibly" continued to be a source of disagreement.

The Roman Catholic co-chairman of the commission, the Rt Rev Alan Clark, Bishop of East Anglia, said the church authorities in Rome, through the Sacred Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith, had a number of reservations about the commission's report. These would be made known shortly, and their publication would mark the beginning of the long process by which each church digested the commission's findings, and began to formulate an official response.

Both co-chairmen said they wanted a new commission to be set up, to consider in more detail how closer unity could be advanced. They both thought that the next major step was for the Roman Catholic Church to re-open the question of Anglican Holy Orders.

This would be the first item on the agenda of the "unity by stages" which the commission envisaged. Anglican orders were ruled to be "absolutely null and utterly void" by Pope Leo XIII in 1896, after an extensive theological investigation. The discovery of large areas of agreement has persuaded the commission that a way round the 1896 ruling might be found.

Dr Runcie, said he "warmly welcomed" the report, although it had not yet been accepted by either church.

Text extracts, page 6

NEWS IN SUMMARY

Paisley threat to Ulster plan

The Rev Ian Paisley, leader of the Democratic Unionist Party, said yesterday that he was optimistic there would be an assembly in Northern Ireland as a result of the initiative planned by Mr James Prior, the Secretary of State (our Belfast Correspondent writes). But he added that he would do everything in his power to destroy an executive on the lines that Mr Prior sought.

They could not agree to a 70 per cent weighted majority to form an executive, Mr Paisley said. Nor could they agree to a built-in Irish dimension. Speaking after a delegation from his party had met Mr Prior, he said: "He is going to stand democracy on its head and no sensible Unionist could agree to that."

Boy accused of murder

A boy aged 12 dropped a 35lb lump of concrete onto the head of a boy of eight and then strangled him with a strip of plastic, Birmingham Crown Court was told yesterday. The body of John McLean, known to his family and friends as "smiler" was found last September inside an empty cable drum on waste ground at Tyseley, Birmingham.

Mr Wilson Mellor, QC, for the prosecution said that although there was much publicity about the killing it was not mentioned how the boy died. Yet the next morning the accused, who denies murder, told schoolfriends that the boy had been battered and strangled.

The hearing continues today.

National Front man convicted

David Riley, a National Front branch organizer, convicted of incitement to racial hatred by publishing and distributing a leaflet abusive and insulting to Asians, was given a six-month jail sentence, suspended for two years at Preston Crown Court yesterday. Riley, aged 30, Accrington, Lancashire, was ordered to pay costs of up to £750.

£50 rabies fine

Mme Arlette Bast, aged 34, from Strasbourg, was fined £50 at Clerkenwell court, London, yesterday after admitting breaking the anti-rabies regulations. She was in London for the weekend and her pet mongrel dog had been overlooked by a customs officer at Dover who checked the coach in which she was travelling.

Typhoon kills 37 in Phillipines

Manila. — Typhoon Nelson killed at least 37 people, damage, and left homeless in the southern Philippines, the weekend. most of the damage were reported in the central island of Leyte.

No milk ban

Gloucestershire education committee has rejected a proposal to ban cheap school milk, subsidized by the EEC. A sub-committee recommended a ban after health specialists said milk was bad for the heart.

Heart man satisfactory

Harefield Hospital's 33rd heart transplant operation was carried out on Sunday on man of 51 from Manchester. The hospital said the man, who has not been named, was satisfactory.

Wage deal meant 'overspending of £950,000'

By Richard Evans

A pay deal between Camden borough council, in north London, and striking manual workers during the "winter of discontent" was 40 per cent higher than a national wage settlement and caused "illegal expenditure" of £950,000, The High Court was told yesterday.

Mr David Widdicombe, QC, applied on behalf of the Metropolitan District Auditor for a declaration that payments made to members of the National Union of Public Employees (Nupe) between 1978 and 1981 were "contrary to law".

If the court grants the declaraton the 31 councillors on Labour's controlling group at the time could be ordered to repay the money and be disqualified from holding public office. They include Mr Kenneth Livingstone, now leader of the Greater London Council.

Mr Widdicombe said that only days after the Nupe strike had started in 1929 and the Association of Metropolitan Authorities had urged local councils to "stand firm" and not make local settlements, the council's Labour group had resolved not to await the outcome of national negotiations and to reach a local agreement.

At a party caucus meeting on February 13, 1979, it was decided to settle with the strikers by granting their two main requests, a basic weekly wage of £60 and a 35-hour week.

The day after the 31 Labour councillors endorsed the pay deal at a council meeting, the national settlement was announced "and it was on a considerably lower basis than the Camden settlement."

Mr Widdicombe said the lowest paid manual worker received £46.90 for a 40-hour week under the national settlement compared to £60 for a 35-hour week in Camden. "The Camden settlement was about four times the then going rate of inflation.

"While generosity is a commendable characteristic, Camden council were, in this instance, not being generous with their money; they were being generous with the ratepayers' money", Mr Widdicombe said.

It was clear law that a local authority had a fiduciary duty to their ratepayers. A Law Lord has ruled that they should conduct their affairs in a "fairly businesslike manner with due regard to the interest of those who provide the money".

It was "highly significant" that in the documents and records of meetings and decisions taken at the time "there is not a single reference to the ratepayers or to the interests of ratepayers".

Mr Ian Pickwell, the district auditor, found the allegedly illegal expenditure of £950,000 and the 31 Labour councillors to be responsible, after an inquiry prompted by complaints by two Conservative councillors.

Mr Widdicombe said the district auditor had ruled that in making its pay settlement, Camden council had failed to consider the interests of ratepayers, the position of national negotiations and the market level of wages. Councillors had failed to take any advice, legal or otherwise, before their "crucial" meeting on February 13.

The district auditor believed it was his duty to get back as much money as possible.

In written evidence for the council, Mr Kenneth Rutter, controller of personnel services, said the manual workers' strike had a greater effect on Camden than elsewhere in London.

He said Mr Pickwell had underestimated the pressures on councillors due to skillfully coordinated and well-organized strike action.

The council's director of social services said in an affidavit that 500 people were placed at immediate risk by the industrial action, and that could have risen to 2,000 within days.

There were no meals on wheels, no transport for the household, laundry services were closed while refuse collections and street cleaning ceased. Public toilets and baths were shut. At one time 28 bodies where awaiting burial and there were a further 29 bodies in a mortuary. The hearing continues today.

☐ Public service unions are said to have considerable influence over Camden council in a report published yesterday by the Camden Commercial Ratepayers Group (David Walker writes).

The report, one of a series on the cost of Camden's services, said that the council spent 60 per cent above average for the inner London boroughs per resident. Conditions of employment for council staff were "very generous"; the National and Local Government Officers' Association and Nupe had obstructed improvements in service, it was claimed.

☐ Local authorities' growing interest in employing private firms to clean streets and collect refuse was marked yesterday by the announcement of a trade union campaign against contracting out.

The TUC published a pamphlet saying that public health could be harmed by the operations of private firms and that the long-term costs of contracting out services had yet to be calculated.

Mr Geoffrey Drain, general secretary of the National and Local Government Officers' Association, and chairman of the TUC's public services committee, said: "Private conractors pose a far greater threat to public services than government cuts.



On the right side of the wire: Former women prisoners of the Japanese at the Imperial War Museum yesterday with Stephanie Beacham (second from left), one of the stars of Tenko, BBC TV's Japanese prison camp series, for the launching of a book about their tribulations, Women Beyond The Wire

TNL health supplement to close

By Annabel Ferriman Health Services Correspondent

Times Newspapers Ltd announced yesterday that it is ceasing publication of *The Times Health Supplement* because it is losing £8,000 a week.

The 10 full-time editorial staff on the weekly, which was launched on October 30 last year, are seeking alternative funding in an effort to keep it alive.

Mr Ian Trafford, publisher of the Times Supplements, wrote to the staff yesterday saying that advertising and circulation had fallen short of estimated targets.

Circulation was about 5,000 copies a week compared with a target of 15,000, and classified advertising was only one page a week, compared with a target of seven, the letter said.

A spokesman for TNL said that although the supplement had achieved a high reputation among the senior staff of the health services, it had not achieved the level of circulation necessary for viability.

Fifteen members of staff have been made redundant, including editorial, advertising and clerical workers.

Miss Jill Turner, of the *THS* said last night that the newspaper had not been given long enough to establish itself.

"I shall fight to continue the newspaper and all the staff want to do the same.

One difficulty for the paper had been that the reorganization of the health service, coming into effect on April 1, was six months behind schedule, so that job advertisement for permanent staff in the health authorities had not been forthcoming.

Mr Arthur Brittenden, director of corporate relation for News International Ltd, said yesterday that total losses for the newspaper were probably about £200,000.

Asked whether the company would be prepared to sell the weekly, he said: "We could not possibly sell the title, because it includes the name of *The Times*. If, on the other hand, there was somebody with other proposals, we would consider them."

The National Union of Journalists' (chapel office branch) committee of *The Times* last night said in a statement that it deplored the possible loss of another 12 journalists' jobs "three days after NUJ negotiators reached an agreement on staffing levels at *The Times*".

600 given choice of pay cut or dismissal

By Clifford Webb, Midlands Industrial Correspondent

In a move which union leaders see as a dangerous test case a Midland motor components company has told 600 manual workers that they must accept wage cuts of between £9 and £18 a week or face dismissal.

Burman & Sons, an old-established Birmingham steering gear manufacturer, sent letters to all 600 at the weekend giving them the statutory 90-day notice of its intention to terminate the men's contract of employment unless they accept new contracts, based on wage cuts, redundancies and big improvements in productivity.

The move comes after weeks of unsuccessful negotiations with the unions which have exhausted the company's official disputes procedure.

Burman has also told the unions that its financial position is deteriorating so rapidly that even this dramatic action may not be sufficient to save jobs. It has also disclosed that it is trying to find a buyer.

Mr Frank Waller, chairman of the parent Adwest Group, said: "The wages being paid at Burman are the highest in the automotive supply sector and something has to be done quickly to bring them into line with those of our competitors and enable Burman to quote the sort of prices which will again win orders."

It is a near certainty that if Burman succeeds in making such substantial wage cuts then other employers will try to follow, and that is worrying the unions.

Mr Ernest Hunt, the Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers' district officer in charge of the Burman negotiations, said: "So far the most that has been conceded by unions to help firms in trouble is a decision to accept a standstill on wages for a period. With today's inflation that amounts to a wage cut. But this is another and potentially much more dangerous development. If Burman gets away with it who knows where it will end."

He has called Burman shop stewards to a meeting tomorrow to ascertain how far they are prepared to go to defeat management which, he claims, is to blame for failing to invest in modern plant.

Many of the 600 are earning a basic wage of £142 for a 39-hour week. The management wants to reduce this to £124 and to renegotiate a bonus scheme.

It is understood that Burman recently lost a large contract to supply steering gear for Rover cars. Another difficulty is its involvement with the De Lorean car company which is now in the hands of Sir Kenneth Cork, the Receiver. He has been trying to find £40m worth of backing to keep the Belfast plant open but prospects look increasingly weak. Unsecured creditors had been hoping for 30p in the pound compensation on debts reported to exceed £20m.

White-collar union officials representing Burman's staff have been called to the headquarters of the West Midlands Engineering Employers' Association today to hear details of a similar emergency packets of cuts.

Employment Bill changes backed

☐ Twenty Conservative MPs yesterday backed changes to the Employment Bill which would allow employers affected by strike action in their own or other firms to lay off workers without pay (Philip Webster writes).

The proposals, which were pressed strongly on Mr Norman Tebbit, Secretary of State for Employment, by the Engineering Employer' Federation, during the long process of consultations on the Bill, are aimed among other things at weakening the trade union weapon of selective strike action which enables employees remaining at work in a strike-hit firm to "chip in" to help their colleagues out on strike.

Two new clauses were tabled to the Bill yesterday by Mr Gerrard Neale, Conservative MP for Cornwall, North. His supporters include three other member of the Bill's standing committee and four former ministers.

The first would entitle an employer disrupted by industrial action to suspend without pay employees taking part in the dispute and any other employees for as long as it continued. The second, and more controversial, would allow the employer to lay off workers without pay if his business is disrupted by a dispute in a firm which supplies him goods and services.

Although Mr Tebbit decided not to include the proposals in the Bill, and they were not part of the CBI's suggested package, Mr Neale is hoping to attract wider support from employers' organizations

More land is covered by registers

The amount of land covered by public registers has increased more than threefold in the past six months, Mr Michael Heseltine, Secretary of State for the Environment, said yesterday (Hugh Clayton writes). "We must now build up the momentum", he said in Birmingham. "I will not hesitate to direct disposals of land which is being unreasonably withheld."

Mr Heseltine announced last September that 35 registers covering 21,000 acres of urban land had been published under the Local Government, Planning and Land Act 1980. He said yesterday that a further 269 registers covering 52,000 acres had since been compiled, but that only 600 acres had been disposed of.

The aim of the registers is to bring development to derelict inner-city sites and to relieve pressure to build on farmland and in areas of rural beauty.

Six months for railway menace

A foreign exchange broker said by a judge, to be a railway menace, tried to push a soldier out of a moving train. William Hempsall, aged 41, of South Harting, near Petersfield, Hampshire, was arrested for attempted murder, but at Winchester Crown Court yesterday, he was jailed for six months for attempted grievous bodily harm.

The court was told that Hempsall had a drink problem and four previous convictions for causing trouble on the railways.

Man who killed wife is freed

A man who strangled his wife after being tricked into marriage and then "taunted intolerably" was given an 18-month prison sentence, suspended for two years, at the Central Criminal Court yesterday.

Michael Azu, aged 43, of Boston Manor Road, Brentford, assaulted his wife, aged 26, in September last year, without intending to cause her any serious harm, and accidentally killed her, Judge Tudor Price, the Common Serjeant, said. Azu had pleaded guilty to manslaughter.

Science report

Gloria maps out the sea

By Pearce Wright Science Editor

Surveys of possible sea bed sites for dumping radioactive waste and of potential new oil fields have been made in a six-month exploration of the North Atlantic and Gulf of Mexico by the scientific cruise ship Farnella, which arrived at St Andrews Dock, Hull, at the weekend. The exploration was undertaken for the Institute of Oceanographic Sciences, using a unique underwater echo sounder called Gloria.

This device, known formally as the Geological Long Range Inclined asdic, is the only type of equipment in the world which can produce acoustic maps of the ocean floor over a swathe up to 32 miles wide, as it is towed at 10 knots behind the research vessel.

Although developed initially by the institute for research into the structure of the deep ocean floor, the voyage combined a programme of applied commercial work with fundamental science. The clients included the Department of Energy and the Department of the Environment for Britain, the United States Geological Survey and Lamont-Doherty Geological Observatory, and the Brazilian petroleum agency, Petrobras.

Dr A. S. Laughton, FRS, director of the institute, says Gloria was developed because conventional echo sounding from surface ships could never give the details of the shape of the deep sea bed like that available to geologists working on land for terrestrial surveys. Yet that information is the starting point of so much geological understanding.

In addition to mapping with the scanner, a string of seven deep sea tide gauges were laid and later recovered from one of the main zones which contain part of the Mid Atlantic Ridge.

Observations made by the scanner, which is contained in an eight metres long cylinder towed at about 50 metres beneath the surface on the end of 400 metres of cable, are recorded on magnetic tape, thus accumulating a data bank.

The most basic information showing the undulations of the sea floor or sonargraphs, is obtained by playing the magnetic recording through a photographic recorder. But a full interpretation takes many hours of analysis

This data is of immediate practical importance as well as of pure scientific interest. The analyses show areas of unstable sea floor, and indicate the presence of powerful currents.

The Farnalla is a former trawler converted to conduct sonar scanning. The vessel was refitted with a floating laboratory with instruments to create seabed maps from sonargraphs.

The cruise covered 33,700 nautical miles, during which time Gloria was operating for 2,500 hours. It has produced images for about 500,000 square kilometres of the ocean floor, or somewhat less than one per cent of the complete sea floor.

Nevertheless the survey includes data for the Department of Energy to help to complete an assessment of the petroleum potential of Continental margins of the British Isles.

Baby murder charge

From Our Correspondent, Sheffield

Donna Louise Fidler, aged 18 months, died after being kicked round a bedroom "like a rag doll" by a teenage boy trying to get rid of bottled-up tension, a court was told yesterday.

His girl friend, aged 16, also punched and threw the toddler who was battered unconscious with appalling injuries, the prosecution said at Sheffield Crown Court.

The pair went to the bedroom on three separate occasions, and the baby was so badly hurt that she could not recover, Mr Brian Walsh, QC told the court.

He said doctor's tried for three days to save the child while she was on a life-support machine. They finally decided to switch off the ventilator.

Mr Walsh said the six-foot tall boy, aged 14, told police "over the past two weekd everything has been annoying me. Everything was bottled up inside me and I could not stand it any more and my temper burst, I just started hitting her".

The couple, who live at Parson Cross, Sheffield, plead not guilty to murdering Donna Louise. The girl denies a further charge of causing her grevous bodily harm.

The case continues today.

Police protection

Yard silent on Thatcher guard

By Stewart Tendler, Crime Reporter

Scotland Yard refused to comment yesterday on reports that Mr Mark Thatcher, the Prime Minister's son, is being accompanied by a police bodyguard on a trip to California. Mr Thatcher has had protection for some months after a threat against him but the question of police protection for any public figure is something the Yard will rarely confirm, although it is probably more widespread than the public realizes.

No one paid much attention to the hotel under-manager when Mr Whitelaw, the Home Secretary, arrived at a Northern Hotel two years ago to address a police conference. Mr Thatcher slightly-built man in black jacket and striped trousers he bustled round like other members of staff. The only difference was that he carried a two-way radio.

The real role of the man only became clear when he warmly greeted the Home Secretary's police bodyguard. The "under-manager" was a Special Branch man sent ahead to check security: the covert side of a security organization which has expanded in recent years to meet the problems of protecting the Royal Family, ministers and VIPs from the violent risks of being a public person.

Between 1978 and 1980 the number of hours put in by members of Scotland Yard's 400-strong Special Branch contingent on guard duties has risen from 19,331 to 27,099.

Today, armed detectives are on duty to protect the Prime Minister, Mr Whitelaw, Lord Carrington and, of course, Mr James Prior, Secretary of State for Northern Ireland and other Ulster ministers.

Mr Foot sometimes has protection while three former prime ministers, Messrs Heath, Wilson and Callaghan, still have protection. Similar guards are provided for former Northern Ireland ministers such as Mr Merlyn Rees and Mr Roy Mason, and Mr Gerard Fitt, MP for Belfast West.

The police protection sometimes extends beyond the politician. A guard is maintained on the Thatcher home in Chelsea, although the Prime Minister now lives in Downing Street.

The list of protection duties for Special Branch does not stop at domestic figures. Visiting dignitaries are normally guarded and the procession of cars for the Prince of Wales's wedding last year was studded with vehicles carrying policemen. Protection for royalty comes under a uniform branch of Scotland Yard, appropriately entitled A1.

Recruitment for A1 is done through an annual note in police orders and entrants usually start by working in Buckingham Palace or Windsor Castle before an assignment to an individual.

Uniform protection is also given to embassies and the buildings of foreign states through the diplomatic patrol group while the Palace of Westminster has its own police station and a compliment put by one senior officer at nearly 300.

The cost of the men who patrol the corridors and homes of power is not published but must run into millions. Compared to the precautions of other countries it remains distinctly low-key.

How successful it is must be judged by events. The attack on the Queen at the Trooping the Colour ceremony last summer showed there will always be gaps which can never be covered unless the VIP becomes a recluse or manpower is unlimited. The Special Air Service Regiment used to do a training programme for getting a VIP out of a car and into a building with complete protection. Twelve men were needed for those few steps.

Six men jailed for sex offences against boys

Boys as young as seven were sexually corrupted by men who preyed on poor families in Liverpool and London, juries were told during a series of trials which ended at the Central Criminal Court yesterday.

Six men were jailed for a total of 39 years for offences against boys they befriended or picked up at railway stations.

Basil Andrew Cohen and Malcolm Raywood had been convicted of similar offences during the Playland vice ring trial in 1975. A third man, David Archer, now known as Ramsey, was also convicted of sex offences in the Playland trial but had his convictions quashed on appeal.

During the trials, which began 17 months ago but had been covered by contempt orders, the court was told that within weeks of being released from prison Cohen and Raywood moved to Toxteth, Liverpool, where they befriended two brothers aged 13 and 15.

The boys played truant from school and sexual offences were committed at the men's flat, Mr Colin Nicholls, for the prosecution, said.

They were joined by a third man, Brian Sheppardson, who ran a cafe in London, and he also assaulted the brothers. When Sheppardson returned to the Cockney Cafe in Commercial Road, East London, he persuaded the boys' parents to let him take a younger brother then aged seven for a holiday.

The boy was taken to the cafe, where Sheppardson tied him with wire and assaulted him.

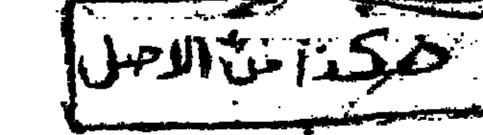
All three men denied offences with the brothers but were found guilty of indecently assaulting a Liverpool boy aged 12, one of a family of 10. Raywood was also convicted of buggery with a boy aged 16 who had run away from home.

Sheppardson, aged 44, was jailed for 10 years for buggery and indecent assault.

Cohen, aged 45, a driver, of Brooke Court, Leytonstone, East London, was jailed for 10 years for indecent assault. He admitted or was convicted of 66 offences.

Raywood, aged 45, unemployed, also of Brooke Court, was jailed for six years for attempted buggery and buggery. Ramsey, aged 56, a garage owner, of Odessa Road, Forest Gate, east London, was convicted on two charges of buggery and jailed for seven years.

Frederick Hobbs, aged 39, unemployed, of Harrow Road, Bayswater, west London, was jailed for four years for buggery. Peter Hughes, aged 38, a travel agent, of Hughes Road, Stratford, east London, was jailed for two years for buggery.



Science report

Gloria maps out the sea

By Pearce Wright Science Editor

Surveys of possible sea bed sites for dumping radioactive waste and of potential new oil fields have been made in a six-month exploration of the North Atlantic and Gulf of Mexico by the scientific cruise ship Farnella, which arrived at St Andrews Dock, Hull, at the weekend. The exploration was undertaken for the Institute of Oceanographic Sciences, using a unique underwater echo sounder called Gloria.

This device, known formally as the Geological Long Range Inclined asdic, is the only type of equipment in the world which can produce acoustic maps of the ocean floor over a swathe up to 32 miles wide, as it is towed at 10 knots behind the research vessel.

Although developed initially by the institute for research into the structure of the deep ocean floor, the voyage combined a programme of applied commercial work with fundamental science. The clients included the Department of Energy and the Department of the Environment for Britain, the United States Geological Survey and Lamont-Doherty Geological Observatory, and the Brazilian petroleum agency, Petrobras.

Dr A. S. Laughton, FRS, director of the institute...

Joseph adds to doubts over single 16-plus exam

From Diana Geddes, Education Correspondent, Exeter

The long-awaited announcement yesterday by Sir Keith Joseph, Secretary of State for Education and Science, on the propsed new single system of examining of pupils aged 16-plus served only to deepen the uncertainty surrounding the future of the test.

Sir Keith, addressing the annual conference of the Secondary Heads' Association in Exeter, said that the Government had not yet decided whether to replace the present dual system of O level and CSE examinations, and so could not set a target date for the introduction of the single system.

Sir Keith's statement seems to go back on the announcement made two years ago by Mr Mark Carlisle, his predecessor, who said that the Government had decided to replace the present dual system by a single system fo examining at 16-plus, and called for suitable national criteria for the new system to be drawn up by the examining board.

Sir Keith claimed yesterday, however, that the Government's view had always been that the new system would be acceptable only if it could be shown that national criteria for syllabuses and assessment procedures could be developed to the satisfaction of the Government.

The draft criteria had not yet been prepared, let alone submitted to ministers for approval, he said. "We are therefore not yet in a position to consider setting a target date for the introduction of a single system.

"The decision whether to move in this direction or to continue with an improved dual system can be taken only when this preparatory work has been completed and appraised."

Sir Keith went on to lay down the minimum requirements that any new system must meet: it must "do justice' to all pupils in the top 60 per cent of the ability range for which the present O-level and CSE examinations were designed; set standards at least equal to those of the existing examinations; be intelligible to parents and employers; and be demonstrably more efficient in the use of resources than present arrangements.

The task of developing national criteria to secure those objectives was a formidable one, he said. It had never been tried in England and Wales before, nor, indeed so far as he was aware, anywhere else.

It was simply too early to judge whether a single system of examining would be feasible. "We are not prepared to make a leap in the dark. We want to be sure of the ground on which our feet will land", he said.

He promised that the Government would take a final decision on the new system's future within the lifetime of this Parliament, assuming it ran its full length. If approval was given the first pupils could be sitting the new examinations by the end of the decade.

If the Government decided against the new system, all the work done on developing national criteria would still be invaluable in reforming the very real deficiencies in the existing dual system.

Mr Fred Jarvis, general secretary of the National Union of Teachers, said Sir Keith's announcement would cause bitter disappointment in the profession "because it reads like a formula for further interminable delays and uncertainty".

Sir Keith seemed to be going back on what his two predecessors had approved.

Several others at yesterday's conference echoed Mr Jarvis's views. However, Mr Geoffrey Goodall, president of the association, said that although he was sorry that no date had been fixed, he did not think it was the end of the 16-plus examination.

Call for plan to combat violence

☐ In the same speech Sir Keith called for closer links between schools and the police to tackle community violence and disorder (the Press Association reports).

He said that a "climate of disorder" could seep int svhools from outside, and he added that Lord Scarman had pointed out that police assistance in educating children in the fundamentals of an ordered society could be of great value.

An abundance of Brunel: Mr John Doubleday putting the finishing touches in London to two bronze sculptures of Isambard Kingdom Brunel, the railway and marine engineer (right). One will be erected at Paddington Station, the other in Bristol where Brunel's Clifton suspension bridge spans the Avon Gorge.

Author defends his best-selling novel

By John Witherow

Mr Donald Thomas, author of the *The White Hotel*, has refuted claims that he did not give adequate acknowledgement for using an eye-witness account of a Nazi massacre in his best-selling novel.

In a letter to be published in *The Times Literary Supplement* this week, Mr Thomas says his novel openly acknowledges use of the late Anatoli Kuznetsov's autobiographical work *Babi Yar*, which was published in translation here in 1970.

His response was made to a letter in th *TLS* last week from Mr David Kenrick, a London antique dealer, who said he discovered almost word for word similarities between sections of *The White Hotel* and *Babi Yar*. Mr Kenrick pointed out that the Penguin edition of the book, which has sold 250,000 copies this year, made only a small acknowledgement to *Babi Yar* while giving more prominent credit to the influence of Sigmund Freud.

Mr Kenrick questions whether the author of a work of fiction should "choose as his proper subject events which are not only outside his own experience but also beyond his own resources of imaginative recreation?" and talks of "a superficially reworked version of the historical accounter".

Mr Thomas says that he not only gave adequate prominence in the book to Mr Kuznetsov's work but also emphasized his indebtedness in several interviews.

Mr Thomas uses an eye witness account of a German massacre of Jews in the Ukraine which was published in *Babi Yar*, putting it into the words of his narrator.

He said yesterday: "I could have changed the order of the words but that would have been untruthful. The only person who could speak was the witness."

He added that he was irritated by the criticism and said Mr Kenrick should try to look at the book as "an organic whole." Nobody else had complained of the similarities and he felt the acknowledgement was adequate.

Others in the literary world felt inclined to agree. It was pointed out that the hardback edition of *The White Hotel* published the acknowledgement to Mr Kuznetsov in larger type than the Penguin edition.

Mr Thomas also pointed out in his letter that the United States publishers of *Babi Yar* are re-issuing the book and quoting its connexion with *The White Hotel* in advertisements. One million copies of *The White Hotel* have been printed in the United States and another reprint had already been ordered.

Mr Burnett commented: "There is no question of a breach of copyright. All the author has done is use a perfectly reasonable literary design."

Alliance split on student union poll

From Ian Bradley, Blackpool

A serious split between Liberals and Social Democrats has emerged on the eve of the National Union of Students' conference in Blackpool.

Delegates to the conference from the two Alliance parties are divided about which candidate they should support today in the election for the union's new president.

While the Liberals are backing Mr Douglas Herd, the Left Alliance candidate, many of the SDP students support Mr Neil Stewart, the Labour candidate, his main rival.

The Liberal/SDP Alliance is putting up a candidate for only one of the five main posts. For the rest it is giving at least tacit support to the Left Alliance, the loose grouping of Communists, Liberals and others, which has dominated the union for the past six years.

If, as is expected, the presidency and most of the executive places go to Labour Party candidates this week, it will mark the end of this era of non-party rule for British students.

Significantly in his opening speech to the conference last night, Mr David Aaronvitch, the retiring president, gave a warning not to align the union with any one political party.

Paroled forger's £82,000 spree

A man released on parole from a 10-year jail sentence for 1,000 fraud offences went on an 18-month, £82,000 forgery spree.

He not only faked legitimately issued cheques, but also printed National Westminster Bank counterfeits, and passed them to shops and businesses all over southern England.

Yesterday at the Inner London Crown Court Robert Bradshaw, aged 46, admitted more than 1,500 theft charges.

Mr John Nutting, for the prosecution, said more than £82,000 was stolen from branches of Barclays, National Westminster and National Giro between March 1979 and June, 1981, under various aliases.

At one stage, Mr Nutting told the court, Bradshaw invested in a printing set, bought some paper resembling that used for National Westminster cheques and printed his own. Leading high street shops never suspected their validity.

An officer from Scotland Yard's intelligence branch was assigned to work solely on the Bradshaw case after the banks reported the huge losses.

Mr Nutting said Bradshaw first opened an account with a £2 deposit at the National Giro Bank. As soon as he received the cash card he went to a different branch every other day, withdrawing the £50 maximum each time.

He added: "The method employed by him to persuade the banks that he was a person of substance, who was not only in a position to withdraw money but deposit it as well, was to make deposits of £200.

"But then the only business he did was to overdraw as much money as possible before the banks issued a circular stopping any further withdrawals. He would then adopt another alias, open a differnet account and start all over again."

Detective Inspector Michael Paton of Scotland Yard's cheque squad said Bradshaw had 11 convictions since 1954, involving 46 cases of fraud, criminal deception and dishonesty.

He had spent nearly 14 years in a South African jail for cheque frauds the was deported

Yesterday Judge Cox sentenced Bradshaw to four more years imprisonment, to run concurrent with his present 10-year term.

Co-operative boycott urged on shooters

By Hugh Clayton Environment Correspondent

Mr John Farr, chairman of the British Shooting Sports Council, appealed yesterday to all users of firearms for recreation to boycott Co-operative shops and the Co-operative Bank.

Mr Farr, Conservative MP for Harborough, said that he had called an emergency meeting of the council to debate action by the million recreational shooters in Britain against the Co-operative movement, the largest private owner of farmland in Britain, which had decided to ban hunting from all its 38,000 acres from June.

"I have tabled a motion for the meeting urging the instantaneous withdrawal of all patronage of Co-operative establishments", Mr Farr said at Westminster. "Shooting people are not prepared to stand idly by and watch hunting be picked off."

Mr Pat Gouldsbury, secretary of the council, said that although the Co-operative movement would continue to allow shooting rights, shooters nevertheless wanted to show solidarity with hunts.

"The Co-operative Wholesale Society has been got at by the League Against Cruel Sports through the socialists", Mr Gouldsbury said. "It has not withdrawn shooting rights at the moment. It gets rent from shooting, and not from hunting. If they aim for hunting now, they will probably go for shooting next."

The hunting ban was decided after months of lobbying by an internal pressure group called Co-operators Against Bloodsports which was financed by the league. The league may finance a similar group inside the Social Democratic Liberal Alliance.

Both sides of the hunting argument are lobbying hard for one of their most important battles, which will be decided tomorrow when county councillors in Leicestershire debate motions for and against a ban on hunting over the 10,000 acres owned by the county.

Some of the most famous hunts in Britain, including the Quorn and the Pytchley, would be affected by such a ban, as would the Fernie hunt, which will also lose part of its country through the Co-operative ban.

Winging their way back to former glory

Peregrine falcons have regained their prewar population levels, (Tony Samstag writes). The Royal Society for the Protection of Birds said yesterday that their comeback marks a quiet triumph of goodwill and common sense over thoughtlessness and stupidity.

The 500 breeding pairs in Britain are thought to be nearly half the European total. The species was persecuted during the Second World War to protect carrier pigeons. By the 1960s the widespread use of organochlorine pesticides had reduced numbers to fewer than 250 pairs. Illegal falconers and egg collectors also took their toll.

Severe restrictions in the use of organochlorines, which interfere with reproduction in a wide range of species, have been in effect since the early 1970s.

The authoritative *British Birds* magazine will report in its April issue that in 1980 two other raptors, the red kite and the osprey, had their greatest breeding successes of the century. Overall, there are now 211 species breeding regularly in Britain, 32 more than in 1900.

Collared doves, Cetti's warblers, little ringed plovers, great crested grebes, Lapland buntings, purple sandpipers, marsh harriers, redwings and avocets have also increased in recent years.



The peregrine falcon (left) and the osprey which are making a triumphant comeback in Britain

NEWS IN SUMMARY

MP seeks test-tube birth study

Mr Leo Abse, Labour MP for Pontypool, is to call today for the establishment of a government-appointed committee to look into the legal, moral and social implications of "in vitro" fertilization (Our Health Services Correspondent writes).

Mr Abse, who will be speaking in an adjournment debate in the Commons, wants the committee to include doctors, lawyers, child psychiatrists and churchmen, and for it to consider what legislation might be necessary to deal with the latest developments in human reproduction.

The membership of a working party set up by the Council for Science and Society to look at "in vitro" fertilization was announced yesterday.

It will be chaired by Professor G R Dunstan, professor of moral and social theology at King's College, London, and will include Dame Josephine Barnes, former president of the British Medical Association and former vice-president of the Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists, Dr Walter Bodmer, director of research at the Imperial Cancer Research Fund, and Professor Duncan Mitchell, director, Institute of Population Studies, Exeter University.

Damages for Ripper victim

Mrs Maureen Long, who survived an attack by Peter Sutcliffe, the Yorkshire Ripper, yesterday obtained judgment against him at the High Court in Leeds, for damages for personal injuries.

Mrs Long, aged 46, of Buttershaw, Bradford, did not appear in court. Mr Colin Grazin, her solicitor, said: "I shall be making efforts to agree an amount of damages with Mr Sutcliffe's solicitors.

Sutcliffe is serving concurrent life sentences for 13 murders and seven attempted murders.

Earlier this month, Mrs Irene MacDonald, mother of Jayne MacDonald, aged 15, Sutcliffe's youngest victim, was awarded damages of £6,722. Another survivor, Miss Marilyn Moore, aged 29, of Leeds, was also given judgment against him.

Teacher wins sex bias action

A married woman teacher who was rejected for a teacher's job after a barrage of questions about her private life, was awarded compensation by an industrial tribunal in Liverpool yesterday.

Miss Helen Gates, aged 34, who was claimed to be better qualified and more experienced than male applicants for the post at Woodvale special school, Wirral, had accused Wirral Borough Council of sex discrimination. The job went to a man.

The tribunal was told that a male councillor at her interview "severely distressed" her by seeking intimate details about her relationship with her husband.

Skeleton identified

A skeleton found in woods near Bury St Edmunds, Suffolk, was identified yesterday as that of Miss Brenda Mary Brown, a nurse, who had been missing since 1971. She came from Chatteris, Cambridgeshire.

Sentencing review is urged

By Stewart Tendler Crime Reporter

Ten years after the introduction of community service orders, more work is still needed to realize their potential, the Howard League says in a report published today.

Dr Kenneth Pease, a former researcher at the Home Office and now head of sociology and social work at Ulster Polytechnic, says in the report that there are still differences in their application. He cites two neighbouring courts where one views orders as an alternative to prison and the other as sentences in their own right.

The orders, which he says have the potential to be the most promising penal development for years, should be imposed as an alternative to prison, committing the offender to between 40 and 240 hours of supervised work. Dr Pease calls for two types of service in future: up to 100 hours in place of prison.

He suggests they could be used as "a fine on time" where an offender has little money. The orders should be imaginative with sufficient finance and staff to run them.

Over the past 10 years the orders have reduced the prison population by 2,000. Dr Pease says there is no evidence that they prevent further offences but in 1980 only 9 per cent of orders were terminated because the offender had committed fresh crimes.

No category of offender appears to be a particular bad risk.

Boats ban urged

The Lake District special planning board decided yesterday to tell the North-west Water Authority that it opposes allowing the use of boats on Thirlmere reservoir, Cumbria, when it is opened to the public soon.

COURT TOLD OF 100 mph CRASH

From Our Correspondent Guildford

A commercial artist told a court yesterday how he drove at 100mph in his Corvette Stingray side-by-side with a turbo-charged Porsche seconds before a fatal crash.

It happened after he tried to out-accelerate the Porsche as they pulled away from a roundabout going towards a flyover on the A316 at Hanworth, west London. But he denied throwing down the gauntlet to spark off a race that ended in the death of Mr Donald Ranger, the driver of the Porsche.

Mr Ricardo di Tommaso, aged 39, of Mulberry Trees, Shepperton, Surrey, was giving evidence at Kingston Crown Court, where he denied causing the death by reckless driving of Mr Ranger, head of the Heron Motor Company, of The Avenue, Sunbury, Surrey.

Mr Di Tommaso, admitting that American cars were one of his great interests, said that he had seen the red Porsche approaching the roundabout. All he wanted to do was to out accelerate it as they pulled away.

The Prsche came very close behind him, he moved into the middle lane and the Porsche came up beside him.

"We were side-by-side doing about 100mph. I them realized it was a bit silly and I immediately decelerated and the Porche went past me doing at least 120mph.

"There were cars in front of it and I saw it swerve to the left and strike the inside barrier, which was a concrete wall."

He said the Porsche careered across the road and bounced off the central barrier before hitting another car. He applied his brakes but he hit the rear of the Porsche.

Mr Di Tommaso denied that there was any question of racing.

The trial was adjourned.

PARLIAMENT March 29 1982

Britain must have its strategic deterrent

DEFENCE

The Trident II (D5) missile system was the most cost-effective way of ensuring Britain's deterrent capability when Polaris ceased to be credible, Mr John Nott, Secretary of State for Defence, said when he opened a debate in the Commons on the Trident programme.

Mr Nott moved that the House endorsed the Government's decision to maintain a strategic nuclear deterrent and to choose the Trident II (D5) missile system as the successor to the Polaris force.

He said that all MPs shared the feeling of deep concern, even foreboding, about the future. All feared the idea of war. The imagination had been appalled. There could be no other aim than to preserve peace.

Every MP would no doubt chose balanced and verifiable disarmament as the road to a secure world. It was not necessary to be a pacifist, unilateralist or socialist to see the essential lunacy to two great powers acquiring ever more efficient delivery systems, each armed with multiple warheads.

Who can say 20 of 30 years from now he went on, what fool or knave or lunatic would threaten our children and grandchildren with these weapons? Our overriding duty, while protecting the security of our people, is to strive towards multilateral disarmament. We cannot shuffle off all responsibility by the futile gesture of renunciation.

Even if we do not believe that the present, ageing Russian leadership with personal memories of 20 million Soviet dead would willingly embark on some exploit which would expose their citizens to another war of hideous proportions, we can have no such confidence about a Communist succession and its perceptions.

Who could tell whether tomorrow's Communist leaders might not be prepared to use the power they now possessed to further their beliefs of divert their restless people from a multitude of problems?

The history of eastern Europe since the war suggested that the present Communist leadership was prepared to pursue its interests by any means if they calculated they could safely get away with doing so.

He saw no evidence to suggest that the leaders of the Soviet Union respected anything but strength or that they would negotiate successfully if they believed they could retain superiority by manipulating the western peace movement to achieve their aims.

Deterence was not a policy only to prevent the threat of a nuclear attack. It also related to the more easily conceivable threat of the use of any military force, including nuclear blackmail, as a system of political aggression.

It was essential to the security of the United Kingdom that this country retained a strateic nuclear deterent. A submarine-launched ballistic missile was the only effective way to ensure that credibility into the twenty-first century.

On the available evidence the Trident D5 missile system was the most cost effective way of ensuring the United Kingdom's deterrent needs when Polaris ceased to be credible.

No one in this house (he said) has any quarrel with the Russian people. My reading of their history leads me to the belief that the Russians are a brave nation who have suffered more than their fair share of human exploitation through the ages.

I hope that one day the Russian people will be our allies just as the Germans are today. Our quarrel is not with the Russian people who have no say. Our quarrel is with a hostile ideology that holds contempt for human freedom and with a communist dictatorship which has the apparent will to impose that ideology by force of arms on others.

Ultimate deterrence in the face of nuclear weapons had to rest on an indestructible second strike capability so that at no level of attack would the aggressor possess the power to blackmail or get surrender. A strategic nuclear force remained the ultimate guarantee of Nato's security.

While the United Kingdom had every confidence in the American strategic guarantee, it was possible that at some time in the future under circumstances that were different from those prevailing now, that a Soviet leadership might calculate, however mistakenly, that it could risk or threaten a nuclear attack on Europe without involving the strategic forces of the United States.

If the Soviets were ever tempted to make such an horrendous miscalculation the existence of an immensely powerful nuclear forces would be an enormously complicating factor and a powerful argument for Soviet caution.

In the last resort, Great Britain must be responsible for her own defence. She could not shuffle that off on to another nuclear power.

After 30 years with a nuclear capability he said, if we abandon nuclear weapons on moral grounds we would deal a devistating blow to Nato, which depends for its collective security on the nuclear deterrent.

We would be abrogating responsibility for our security which would be protected only by the existence of the United States nuclear umbrella which we had refused to support. To renounce our nuclear weapons and then shelter under the American umbrella would have neither moral nor political merit, and it would leave the French as the only European nuclear power.

Should Britain renounce its indpendent strategic capability because of cost? Was Britain to forgo its own defence against nuclear blackmail because 3 per cent of the defence budget was just too much to bear?

Of course he and his Cabinet colleagues and his defence advisers would have liked to find a cheaper way to sustain a credible strategic capability beyond the 1990s, but none existed, as any in-coming administration would discover. Other options had been examined, but did not have the necessary attributes of a credible strategic system.

The threat Britain faced came from a superpower and it must be capable of surviving against superpower technology.

Britain had a substantial lead in submarine technology over over the Soviet Union. The choice of the new submarines the Government had made was heavily influenced by the need to keep that 10-year lead in submarine technology.

He and all his defence advisers wold like more frigates. He would like more tanks and more aircraft. But all of them, including the chiefs of staff, were unanimous in the view that



Onslow: Partisan TV programme

strategic nuclear capability took precedence over an increase in such forces.

Even a massive conventional force was no ultimate value in a nuclear environment unless the possessor of this conventional force could resist strategic nuclear blackmail of the other side.

All Nato alliance countries supported Britain's position in maintaining an independent strategic capability. It was part of the collective defence of freedom.

Mr Keith Speed (Ashford, C): Could Mr Nott answer this riddle: How is it he can apparently afford £8,000m to meet a threat in 13 years time, which may be true, but we cannot afford £3m to keep HMS Endurance on patrol to meet a threat which is facing us today?

Mr Nott: I am not going to get into a debate on the Falkland Islands today. These issues are too important to be diverted.

An independent nuclear deterrent depended upon being truly independent. Polaris now and Trident in the 1990s were entirely under the control of the British Prime Minister. The release of any nuclear weapon would be wholly in the power of the British Government, and the Soviet leadership knew it to be so.

Britain was in no way dependent on the United States for communications, targeting or any other matter of day-to-day operation of the force.

It was unquestionably an independent force. Britain certainly had the technological ability to build a successor missile of its own, as the French had done, but chose not to do so on the grounds of cost.

Although it was not possible at present to quantify the proportion of work likely to go to British companies, with some components it would be up to 80 per cent while with others it would be only 10 per cent. It would add up to very substantial business.

There had been peace in Europe for half a lifetime despite deeply opposed political systems, massive forces in close proximity and potentially inflamatory situations which in other ages would probably have led to war. So deterrents plainly worked and the United Kingdom had a role to play which was welcomed by her allies.

Mr John Silkin, chief Opposition spokesman on defence and disarmament (Lewisham, Deptford, Lab), moved the Opposition amendment:

"That this house condems the decision to purchase the Trident nuclear system, a decision which escalates the arms race, breaks the spirit of the Treaty on Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, shows complete contempt for the negotiations currently taking place in Geneva and for the United Nations Second Special Session on Disarmament, damages the United Kingdom's conventional defences, places an intolerable burden on the British economy and reduces the United Kingdom's power to pursue an independent foreign policy."

He said the amendment set out the reasons why the Labour Party would cancel the Trident project when it came into power and why the Government's policy was rejected. That was not a policy which would keep Britain safe for twenty of thirty years.

Trident did not make anyone feel secure. It was another manifestation which convinced more and more people that this country no longer controlled nuclear weapons but rather they controlled us.

There was a feeling that such weapons were designed not to prevent wars, which had been the original reason for Polaris, but fight them. Trident had the capability not simply of retaliation, but of destroying Soviet missiles in their silos before they were launched.

Trident would multiply Britain's warhead capacity around 20 times the original Polaris level. An adversary looking at it would do so in the light of its capacity. It was almost as if the United Kingdom were playing last across with the Soviet Union and that was why the programme presented the danger of escalation.

That was why so many people in this country, not just embers of the Labour Party or pacifists or unilateralists, were terrified out of their wits by what was happening.

For 25 years people had been told that nuclear weapons would ensure that Britain did not go into the conference chamber naked, but they saw that the country did not go into the conference chamber at all.

Mr Nott: Geneva is not about strategic weapons.

Mr Silkin: Geneva is about theatre weapons and should lead to strategic weapons.

Mr Nott: The Salt and Start talks were bilateral negotiations between the two major powers, but it is not true to say that we have not had a major part to play.

Mr Silkin: Mr Nott is making the worst of a bad case — that the Government have not the slightest intention of being present at the negotiations on strategic weapons.

The United Kingdom ought to be represented as a major party. It had been a signatory, one of the first three, to the non-proliferation treaty, and so had a right to be present at negotiations.

The transfer of Trident from one nuclear power to another was contrary to the spirit of article 1 of the treaty, and he maintained, to the spirit of article 6.

Mr Nott: The non-proliferation treaty refers to nuclear warheads. They are manufactured at Aldermaston.

Mr Silkin: If it were about warheads, it would be a very limited treaty. The whole basis of the treaty is to stop the nuclear arms race.

Sir Frederick Burden (Gillingham, C): I find it difficult to understand how, suddenly, after supporting Polaris for many years because of its effectiveness and the need for a deterrent, the Labour Party, now say that we need none at all.

Mr Silkin: When we come to Trident, we are dealing with something so different, so dangerous and so deadly that it becomes different in quality.

The Secretary of State was presenting the Trident purchase to the British people as perpetuating an independent strategic force. Did he expect MPs to believe that America would let Britain have Trident if it thought that Britain would use it as it pleased rather than as America pleased?

If the Americans thought that Britain would use it this week in the South Atlantic or anywhere in a way which might involve them, would they let Britain use it?

Mr Nott: Why not consult his colleagues the former Prime Ministers? They would tell him it was independent.

Mr Silkin: My former colleagues never had to deal with Trident.

Increasingly when Britain spoke on world affairs, they would hear the unchallenged voice of America. The process was well under way. The British Government did not merely echo the bellicose rhetoric from the White House but amplified it.

They dare not say that the President was wrong. Trident was not Britain's ticket to peace and freedom but was the badge of its servitude.

The sacrifice of Britain's ability to pursue its own foreign policy was only one casualty of Trident. Among others was weakening the British economy and the diversion of scarce resources from manufacturing industry.

The structure of Britain's defence policy had to change. The emphasis in the British contribution to Nato in the 1980s must come down much more on naval and air force efforts. Without discounting BAOR, it was in the United Kingdom air defence region and in the Atlantic. English Channel and North Sea sea lanes that this country was most needed and at its best.

For all parties in the House this was a moment of truth. They all had to consider where they were going. The Conservatives intended pressing on with the Trident. Only the Labour Party was unanimously opposed to Trident. Labour would cancel it outright and finally abandon the pretence that the path to peace lay in preparing for nuclear war.

Sir Hugh Fraser (Stafford and Stone, C) said he was unable to support the Covernment over the Trident missile. Britain was purchasing the wrong weapon from the wrong firm at the wrong time.

Nato had never been in a more disturbed state and there had never been a situation of greater threat to the stability of that organization. In defence timing, for the next four or five years the window for Russian aggression against the West could not be wider. What was needed above all else was a reinforcement of Britain's conventional arms.

Trident was the best system. But those who put it forward bad not thought out its full implications. It put this country even more in the front line, opening a whole new dimension of danger regarding civil defence, nuclear anti-ballistic missile systems and crisis management considerations.



Nott: Cost-effective

Silkin: People terrified

Dr David Owen (Plymouth, Devonport, SDP) said SDP members and Liberals did not approve of the Government's decision to buy Trident. But they felt it necessary to make it clear they supported the United Kingdom's continued membership of Nato and accepted the two commitments that this carried — a commitment to detente through disarmaments and negotiations on arms control, and a commnitment to defence which involved conventional defence and nuclear deterrence.

The Government was right to take the decisiion to spend an extra £300m, admittedly a lot of money, to re-motor the Polaris missiles. This would ensure Polaris missile life wood continue to the end of the century.

There was at least five years in which a British Government could pursue arms control and disarmament without making a decision an commitment.

The Government should get agreement on a first-phrase reduction to get a conventional balance and to introduce into negotiations the concept of a battlefield free zone in which no nuclear weapons would be deployed.

Mr Cranley Onslow (Woking,C) chairman of the Commons select committee on defence said that there had been a deal of misinformation put about on the issue of the nuclear deterrent. When watching television or reading newspaper articles, it was sometimes difficult to belive the people involvd had done any homework at all. A Granada *World in Action* Programme on January 11 was just about the most mischievous and partisan he had seen. It was a mine of misinformation.

A lot of faith of the people on Britain would turn on the amount of industrial contributuon the country made to its own defence. France was spending about the same amount on defence as Britain but 19 per cent of it on totally nuclear capability submarines, airborn and land-based systems. Meanwile, MPs were arguing about Britain spending five or six per cent.

Mr Donald Stewart (Western Isles, Scot Nat) said he was in total opposition to Trident and nuclear weapons, and particularly those on Scottish soil. The SNP were committed to support unilateral renunciation of nuclear weapons and would not wish to subscribe to Nato

Undertakings not infringed

THE TIMES

There was no question of the undertakings on editorial independence given on the acquisition of *The Times* having been infringed; the former editor, Mr Harold Evans, was under no obligation to resign and he could have taken his case to the independent national directors if he felt he had been constructively dismissed, Mr John Biffen, Secetary of State for Trade, said during questions in the Commons.

He told Mr John Fraser (Lambeth Norwood, Lab), who had asked if he was satisfied with the observance of the undertakings given as to editorial independence which were given to him on the acquistion of *The Times*: I do not consider that any of the conditions I imposed relating to editorial independence have been broken. The responsibility for approving the appointment and dismissal of the editor is a matter for the independent national directors and not for me.

Mr Fraser: Would he not agree that what was in effect the constructive dismissal of the editor of *The Times* was a question of fire first and ask questions later, and that this constitutes the second breach of the undertakings that were given to Mr Biffen?

The first was the transfer of titles which had to be reversed by Mr Rupert Murdoch.

Has the Secretary of State any lessons to learn from the nature and enforceability of undertakings given to him on the transfer of newspapers?

Mr Biffen: If the former editor of *The Times* thought that he had been constructively dismissed, he was under no obligation to resign. He could have forced (Labour interruptions) — oh yes, for a man who was a great crusader over thalidomide, he could have taken the case to the independent national directors. In fact he chose not to.

There *is* no question of the conditions having been infringed and the Labour MPs who are trying to mount this crusade have simply not identified the nature of the problem.

Mr Jonathan Aitken (East Thanet, C): Will Mr Biffen resist the temptation to go on looking like the emperor who had no clothes, living in a world of complete make-believe, about the situation on *The Times*?

If he is so satisfied that the independent national directors have played a proper role in this matter, why is there no mechanism, or was there no mechanism, for calling them into operation and for exercising their function to safeguard editorial independence properly?

Mr Biffen: The mechanism was there and the former editor of *The Times* chose not to use it.

Mr Norman Atkinson (Haringay, Tottenham, Lab): It is now well-known in Fleet Street that as a result of direct pressure by the Prime Minister, Mr Rupert Murdoch took the action that he did. Does not the whole thing prove the golden rule of Fleet Street that he who owns the goal makes the rules?

Mr John Stokes (Halesowen and Stourbridge, C): Will Mr Biffen resist the temptation to refer to all these reporters and editors with all the sort of ballyhoo as if they were footballers or film stars? What matters in the media is the message, not the messengers. (Laughter).

Mr Biffen: I have tried to be austere and detached about this matter. I have confined my answer to the specific case of whether or not the independent national directors and the conditions which were made for editorial independence on *The Times* on the acquisition of *The Times* newspaper, have been *infringed. I have to say they have* not.

Mr Norman Atkinson asked if the Secretary of State had had discussions with the national directors of *The Times* to discuss the editorship of the newspaper.

Mr Biffen: in a written reply, said no.

Government would not block sale

CIVIL AVIATION

If the board of British Airways decided *they wanted* to sell subsidiaries, the Government would not stand in their way, Mr Iain Sproat, Under Secretary of State for Trade, said during Commons questions. He refused to reveal details of the Price Waterhouse report into BA on the grounds that it contained confidential commercial information.

Mr Alfred Dubs (Wandsworth, Battersea South, Lab) has asked the Secretary of State for Trade to review his policy towards British Airways to exclude the sale of profitable subsidiaries.

Mr Sproat: Although the Government's aim has been to sell to private enterprise a stake in British Airways as a whole, I would not exclude the separate disposal of a subsidiary if the British Airways Board, in the exercise of their commercial judgment, decided that the airline's future interests are best served by such a proposal.

Mr Dubs: Does it make sense to threaten BA's profitable and enterprising subsidiaries at a time when the BA board is making enormous efforts to get the whole operation back into the black?

Mr Sproat: I would like to commend the BA board strongly together with the attitude of many BA staff during the ramp strike. They are showing a splendid spirit.

On the future and the selling of subsidiaries there is no question whatever but that it is up to the BA board if they decide they want to sell off a subsidiary. There is no pressure from me.

Mr Douglas Hoyle (Warrington, Lab): I was pleased to hear him saying a few kind words for BA. He appears to spend most of his time denigrating them.

Mr Sproat: When criticism is necessary, I will give it, and praise them when it is due.

Mr Leslie Huckfield (Nuneaton, Lab): Since he has mentioned the ramp dispute, the attitude of BA management in locking out a section of its own staff is hardly going to enhance their future financial prospects.

Is he encouraging BA to take a more positive attitude towards negotiating in this dispute, or is he standing idly by on the sidelines making critical noises in the hope that the dispute will precipitate the break-up of BA?

Mr Sproat: No, certainly not. The dispute is a matter for the BA board.

☐ Mr Allen McKay (Penistone, Lab) later asked for a statement on the minister's consideration of the Price Waterhouse Report on British Airways.

Mr Sproat: BA commissioned a report from Price Waterhouse to help the airline to return to profitability. BA have sent me a copy of the report. It contains commercially confidential information and BA do not intend to publish it. Mr Biffen, the Secretary of State for Trade, and I shall, however, be discussing it with them and their response to its recommendations.

Mr McKay: Will Price Waterhouse make any recommendations regarding the capital reconstruction of BA? What amount of money will be required either to pay off loan debt or go into equity shares if this is the way the minister decides to go? Is there truth in newspaper reports that this amounts to £600m.

Mr Sproat: I advise him not to believe everything he reads in the newspapers about this report. This is a confidential report commissioned by BA. It is not up to us to reveal what is in it.

Mr Bowem Wells (Hertford and Stevenage, C): Will the report help in deciding how and when BA shares will be made available to the public?

Mr Sproat: The truth is always helpful.

Mr John Smith, chief Opposition spokesman on trade (North Lankashire, Lab): The Government should not write-off any loan debt or translate it into equity in a way which involved the taxpayer putting a large amount of money into BA before it is sold off to private interests.

Mr Sproat: I was asked about Price Waterhouse, not about the general state of BA finances. It is therefore not up to Mr Biffen and myself tp reveal what is in the report. If Sir John King wishes to, it is up to him.

On the future plans of BA and privatization, Mr Smith will just have to wait and see.

☐ Mr Anthony Marlow (Northampton North, C) during other exchanges, asked What is the earliest date by which he anticipates BA to be back in profit? Is there any chance the Government will sell a stake in BA before that time?

Mr Sproat: I would hope BA would be profitable in the next financial year. On selling assets, if the BA board decide they want to sell off subsidiaries in the meantime, I would not stand in their way.

Mr Kenneth Woolmer an Opposition spokesman (Batley and Morley, Lab): What sense would it make to the Government to allow BA to consider flogging off profitable subsidiaries making £20m a year if the Government wants to privatise it?

On Brice Waterhouse, it is a scandal he refuses to publish a report which involves potentially hundreds of millions of pounds of taxpayers' money in a desperate bid to flog off a national asset.

Mr Sproat: It is not a question of a scandal. It is not my report to publish. If Sir John King wishes to do so, it is up to him.

On selling subsidiaries in the meantime, this is a matter for the commercial judgment of BA. We will not stand in their way in either direction.

Mr Michael Colvin Bristol, North West, C): Reducing BA's labour force from 58,000 to 43,000 employees in just over two years is no mean effort on BA's part.

Mr Sproat: The reason they are doing this is because they are almost £1,000m in debt and had a trade loss of £145m last year. While I am happy to praise where praise is due the reason why reductions are necessary is precisely because of the faults of the past which must be rectified as soon as possible.

Mr John Smith: In response to the interest of MP's in the Price Waterhouse report, he should ask Sir John King to make it available.

Mr Sproat: I made a neutral statement that it was a confidential report and it is up to Sir John King.

☐ British Airways losses in the finacial year just ending will be a good deal larger than the £141m pre-tax loss last year, Mr Sproat said during the other questions.

This was unsatisfactory, he added. He expected the board to take whatever measures were necessary to restore profitability in the shortest possible time and was confident they were making every effort to do so.

Mr James Marshall (Leicester, South, Lab): In view of the uncertainty, would it not be economic madness to attempt to keep to the Government timetable to privatize British Airways by 1984.

If his policy was pursued, inevitably it would be at a price well below the long-term value of the company and, as a consequence, mean further substantial losses to the British taxpayer.

Mr Sproat: I do not agree. The Government is determined to stick to its timetable to privatize British Airways as fast as practible.

Mr William Walker (Perth and East Perthshire, C): does the management of British Airways agree with the Government on privatization and should not the efforts they are making to make the company profitable be encouraged and not discouraged?

Mr Sproat: Yes, I do. I strongly commend the work which Sir John King, Mr Gibbs and Roy Watt are doing.

Mr John Smith, chief Opposition spokesman on trade: What is the justification from the point of view of the public interest, of the Government wiping out or acquiring *loan debts of British* Airways prior to selling off *shares to private sector* interests? What does the public interest gain from such a manoeuvre?

Mr Sproat: I do not care to comment on a hypothesis. (Labour laughter)

Talks on seat capacity over Atlantic

Officials at the Department of Trade are having talks this week with American air authorities to discuss the over-capacity of seats on planes flying the North Atlantic route, Mr Iain Sproat, Under Secretary of State for Trade, said.

Mr Stanley Newens: (Harlow, Lab) asked for a statement on the allocation of route licences formerly held by Laker Airways.

Mr Sproat replied: The allocation of route licences is, in the first instance, for the Civil Aviation Authority to determine in accordance with its statutory duties. The authority will hold hearings to consider applications to take over the Laker route licences as soon as practicable. The Laker licences have not yet been formally revoked.

The CAA has been directed to grant British Caledonian Airways a temporary exemption from licensing arrangements in order to enable them to operate a service between Gatwick and Los Angeles in place of that operated by Laker.

Mr Newens: In the past the allocation of routes has led to an over-supply of seats at minimum economic cost with the result that although pasengers have gained on the short run from cheap fares, in the long run it leads to deficits, bankruptcies, redundancies and passengers losing the whole of their fare money?

Is there not a strong case for reviewing the method of allocation of these routes and make clear that no operator in which Sir Freddie Laker has a part will be allocated any of these routes on a future occasion?

Mr Sproat: To his reference to Sir Freddie Laker, the answer is "No," as also for the suggestion that we look again at the means of of allocating the routes.

Mr Anthony Grant (Harrow, Central, C): In offering congratulations for the decision to offer the Los Angeles route to British Caledonian, I would say that British Caledonian is just as much an example of private enterprise as the former Laker Airways.

Mr Sproat: I am grateful for those two points. The private sector as a whole made a profit last year as opposed to the public sector.

Mr Kenneth Woolmer, an Opposition spokesman on trade (Batley and Morley, Lab): Can he confirm the story in *The Financial Times* that the Government believes the main cause of the Laker affair on the North Atlantic, was an excess of seats?

Is the Government pressing for a gateway moratorium over the North Atlantic and are these problems not only for Laker but all airways?

Mr Sproat: In a time of world recession, there is a problem of over-capacity. As for the gateway moratorium, the answer is "Yes."

Fewer thefts at Heathrow during strike

Passengers at Heathrow Airport had benefited from the disappearance of pilfering during the baggage handlers' dispute, Lord Campbell of Croy, (C) said during questions after asking the Government to congratulate British Airways and the British Airports Authority on the effectiveness of the improvised arrangements for carrying baggage at Heathrow which had so greatly assisted passengers, including disabled people.

Lord Lyell, for the Government, replied: I am glad that despite the dispute at Heathrow, inconvenience to air travellers has been kept to a minimum. It would not be appropriate for the Government to intervene in this dispute. I hope that in everybody's interests a settlement will be reached soon.

Lord Campbell of Croy: Volunteers, including pilots and other aircrew, have been helping to maintain this essential service on the ground. Passengers who are unable to carry their own baggage, such as the elderly, have benefited also, from the disappearance during this period of the pilfering which has been so deplorable a feature of Heathrow in the past.

Lord Lyell: It is the case that other members of British Airways' staff have assisted in various duties which are normally carried out by the ramp workers. As to his second point, that will require verification from British Airways' management themselves.

☐ Changing the names of the lounges at Heathrow airport from Alcock and Brown to Hillingdon and from de Havilland, Brabazon and Kingsford-Smith to Hounslow was one of the greatest insults which could have been given to these brave pioneers of British aviation, the Earl of Kimberley (C) said during a question on why the British Airports Authority deemed it necessary to change the name.

Lord Lyell: The choice of names for the VIP suites at Heathrow airport is a matter for the British Airports Authority and not for the Government. I understand that the proposed changes were prompted by the reduction in the number of suites in the central area from four to two and the consequential difficulty in choosing which of the four names of equally famous pioneers should be dropped.

The Earl of Kimberley: There is already a VIP lounge on the south side of the airport, called South Side, which could make a total of three. This is another example of the British Airports Authority's bureaucracy.

Lord Lyell: It is sad that these famous names will no longer be noted and attached to the suites in the central area at Heathrow and I will convey this opinion to the British Airport Authority. There is, I understand, an additional VIP facility as he described, and I shall check to see whether a name might be applied to that.

Case sent to Office of Fair Trading

It was a scandal that a firm like Lodge Road Builders could use the yellow pages of the telephone directory to obtain business and then charge exorbitant amounts for work done badly or not at all, Mr Terry Davis (Birmingham, Stechford, Lab) said during questions. Was there nothing that could be done to protect the public against such unscrupulous people?

Dr Gerard Vaughan, Minister for Consumer Affairs: This is a matter of concern and I am looking into it. In this particular case not only have papers gone to the Office of Fair Trading, but the Trading Standards Department. I am looking to see whether prosecution is appropriate. The Goods and Services Bill will codify this area of the law and be helpful.

Carrington not to drop Israel trip

FOREIGN

The Government had rejected a request that Lord Carrington, the Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, should cancel his visit to Isreal because of the situation on the West Bank, Lord Trefgarne, Under Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs said in the House of Lords.

He said: We deplore the dismissal of the democratically elected mayors and have called for an end to the violence. However, we believe that it would be wholly unproductive to cut off communications with Isreal at a time when it is vital to try to persuade the Israeli Government to show restraint and work for an overall statement.

Lord Mayhew(L): Is it appropriate that a British Foreign Secretary should pay a friendship visit to a government whose international conduct is universally condemned and is so outrageous?

Lady Llewelyn-Davies, for the Opposition: There is strong feeling in the country and the House that it is precisely because of the dangers and difficulties in the Middle East that we feel it essential the Foreign Secretary should carry out his visit to Israel. (Cheers).

Lord Trefgarne: The visit will be considerably more than a mere courtesy visit, as was suggested. It will be an opportunity for an exchange of views at the highest level with Israel.

Peers reject Sunday trading compromise

HOUSE OF LORDS

Lady Trumpington (C), sponsor of the Shops Bill, Which would allow shops to open at any time, declined to accept a compromise amendment during the ommittee stage of the Bill so that it would allow all shops to open until 1 pm on Sundays.

Lord Jaques (Lab) moving the amendment, said that those who wanted seven-day trading had to take account of the views of the trader and his staff. The best way of avoiding commercialisation of Sundays was to compromise and settle for trading until 1 pm.

Lady Trumpington said she was tempted by the compromise which would improve the present situation, but regretted that she could not accept it.

The principle on which the Bill was based was that it was not for Parliament, ministers, councils, bureaucracies, consumer organizations or anybody else to dictate to shops when they were to open or close.

Britain's was a free society, or was meant to be. Unless there were powerful reasons why a person should not do what he wanted he should be allowed to do it. She did not see why the law should dictate to a retailer, whether he liked it or not that he must close on a Sunday afternoon.

Lady Seear (L) said for all its seductive appearance, this was a wrecking amendment, because it cut scross the whole purpose of the Bill which was to leave it to the shopkeeper and his workers whether they were going to open of not.

Lord Underhill (Lab) said an extension of the law on the lines proposed by Lady Trumpington would lead to a change in life and affect the areas around shops which would be crowded with cars on Sundays as they were during the rest of the week.

Lord Milverton (C) said that surely there could be one day in the week when a man and woman did not need to make money. Sunday would become another money-making day.

Lord Lucas of Chilworth (C) said it was surprising that some Labour peers were against change, and against Sunday trading throughout all the range of goods, be they alcohol or tea, porno magazines or Bibles, petrol or bicycles, and that opportunity should not be given to enterprising shopkeepers.

The amendment was rejected by 118 votes to 46 — majority against, 72.

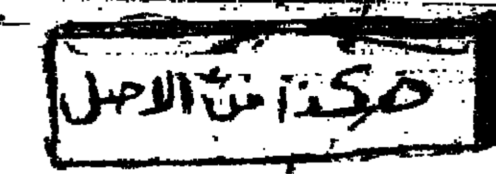
The committee stage was concluded.

Royal Assent

The following Acts received Royal Assent: Agricultural Training Board; Industrial Training; Canada; Travel Concessions (London).

Parliament today

Commons (2.30). Questions: Employment; Prime Minister. Fire Service College Board (Abolition) Bill and Stock Transfer Bill, remaining stages. Motion on gas levy rate order. Lords (2.30): Administration of Justice Bill, committee. Debate on EEC farm prices for 1982-83.



Ex-nurse admits forcing girl to drink vinegar

From Arthur Osman, Wolverhampton

A former superintendent nurse at a home for mentally handicapped children in Walsall, West Midlands, admitted at Wolverhampton Crown Court yesterday that she had forced a girl patient to drink vinegar and salt, and on other occasions had shut a boy in a barrel and picked up another by his hair.

Mrs Susan Elizabeth Wilkes, who is married and has a child aged three, pleaded guilty to eight charges of ill-treating children at the Megan du Boisson home for the handicapped between 1975 and 1980.

She was also accused of making a girl stand in the rain and hitting a boy with a slipper. She was released on bail for social reports to be prepared, and will appear before the same court next Monday.

Mrs Wilkes, aged 30, of Bridge Street, Clayhanger, Staffordshire, denied 10 charges of ill-treatment and the court will decide next week whether those will be allowed to lie on the file. The Crown did not open its case against her yesterday.

She was followed into the dock by Mr Bernard Joseph Blundell, aged 61, the former director of the home, of Paget Drive, Chasetown, near Cannock, Staffordshire. He pleaded guilty to ill-treating a girl aged 15 in January 1979 by pushing her nose into urine.

Mr Blundell, a former magistrate and councillor, was said to have served as a warrant officer first class in REME between 1941 and 1963, was conditionally discharged for 12 months.

Judge Ward said the normal course when ill-treatment of children was involved was a term of imprisonment, but Mr Blundell's was not a case where his duty involved passing a prison sentence. It was a tragedy he was standing in the dock, and he was being dealt with on an isolated incident of ill-treatment of a mentally disordered child.

Mr John Deave, for the prosecution, said there had been 24 children in the home. He said the girl, aged 15 had thrown things about the urinated on the floor. Mr Blundell pushed her nose in it.

Mr William Wood, for the defence, said Mr Blundell's work for the mentally handicapped had been carried out selflessly, without any attempt to benefit himself. He had been instrumental in establishing the residential home.

He said the girl in question had thrown a knife at someone before urinating on the floor.

The girl is now at a large mental hospital in Birmingham.

Court told of 'pot hidden in chocolates'

From Our Correspondent
Newport, Isle of Wight

A packet of chocolates smuggled into Albany maximum security prison, Isle of Wight, would have more than sweetened the palate of Samuel Rommel, a prisoner aged 45. For when the police officers stripped off the wrappers four of the "chocolates" were found to be cannabis resin, it was said at Isle of Wight Crown Court yesterday.

Mr Robert Tennyson, aged 33, of Bramsholme Estate, Hull, and John Stark, aged 38, of Walton Street, West Hull, and Rommel pleaded not guilty to two charges of conspiring to smuggle drugs into Albany jail.

Mr Stephen Parish, for the prosecution, said that nine days after Mr Stark was released from prison he returned to the Isle of Wight with his friend Mr Tennyson, and sent him into Albany with a visitor's pass.

But while Mr Tennyson was still in the waiting room two detectives come in and said they had reason to believe he had brought in drugs. Mr Tennyson panicked and ran into the lavatory, the court was told. The police took from him a block of vegetable matter containing cannabis, some tablets and LSD and a bag of chocolate, it was said.

The hearing continues today.



Brian Harris

Civic souvenirs: Sir Horace Cutler with some of his favourite possessions. He was presented with the spade when he opened a building in Wembley.

Sir Horace hands over . . .

Sir Horace Cutler, who until the rise of Mr Kenneth Livingstone was probably the best known representative of local government in London, is stepping down as leader of the Greater London Council's Conservatives (David Walker writes).

His successor, due to take over at the council meeting on May 11, is likely to be chosen from among Mr Richard Brew, the present deputy leader; Mr Alan Greengross, one of the Conservatives' most thoughtful spokesmen on transport; and Mr George Tremlett, who has made a special study of housing matters. Other contenders include Mr Robert Vigars, a long-serving councillor who has previously stood against Sir Horace.

Sir Horace, who will be 70 this year, led the GLC from 1977 until Labour took control last May. During those years his goatee beard, bow tie and flamboyant projection of such schemes as holding the Olympic Games on a reclaimed site in the city's dockland area established an identity denied to most municipal leaders.

The arrival at County Hall of Mr Livingstone left Sir Horace unsure of what tactics to follow in opposition; the young left-winger did not play the games of raillery enjoyed by Sir Horace and former Labour leaders of his own age.

Sir Horace will continue to represent the Harrow, West, division until the 1985 GLC elections. "There is plenty of steam in me yet," he said yesterday. "My self-imposed task is to fight the takeover by extreme left which is going on in town halls all over the country."

Social worker denies hurling riot bombs

A social worker for the London Borough of Southwark hurled two petrol bombs at police cordons during the height of street rioting in Brixton last April, it was alleged at the Central Criminal Court yesterday.

Mr Nicholas Purnell, for the prosecution, said that Adrian Kenny was identified by the police as the bomber because he stood out as one of the only a few white people causing disturbances in the area.

Mr Kenny, aged 26, of Effra Parade, Brixton, pleaded not guilty to throwing an explosive substance with intent to burn or do serious bodily harm to police.

In interviews with the police, Kenny said he was the victim of mistaken identity, the court was told. He said he was standing at his front gate comforting an elderly woman neighbour and trying to prevent young blacks smashing his windows when he was struck on the head. "There was a lot of confusion and I do not remember anything else."

But Mr Purnell told the jury that tests showed petrol and diesel fuel on his shoes and jacket.

The court was told that the police manned two cordons in Railton Road, Brixton, on April 11. Gangs of black youths armed with axes, lumps of wood and iron bars, launched attacks on them throwing sticks and stones. Three cars were set on fire; two were overturned and the third pushed towards a police line.

Mr Kenny was alleged to have emerged from behind one of the burning vehicles and to have thrown a petrol bomb which flew over the first police cordon and shattered in flames against an officer's shield behind. Minutes later he threw a second petrol bomb, Mr Purnell alleged.

Two police officers droppd their shields and "snatched" Mr Kenny from the crowd.

The hearing continues

Solicitor's case for Lords

A solicitor and his wife yesterday were given leave to appeal to the Lords against a ruling that a dispute over their eviction of a family from a cottage under a "buy-back" clause should be heard at a High Court trial.

On November 23 last year, the Court of Appeal decided that the issue of whether Mr and Mrs Richard Langdale had taken unfair advantage of Mr Tom Danby when he sold him the cottage at Dale Road, Elloughton, near Hull, should be tried in full, in spite of an earlier ruling that the Langdales were entitled to possession.

Lord Diplock, sitting with Lord Fraser of Tullybelton and Lord Bridge of Harwich, said yesterday that the Lords would grant the Langdales leave to appeal because the case raised a "matter of some importance".

Hang glider pilot aims at Westminster

By Ronald Faux

Fair winds and the Civil Aviation Authority willing, Mr Rory MacCarthy hopes to arrive at the Houses of Parliament next week as no one before him ever has.

With the aim of making an attempt for charity on the world altitude record for a hang glider, Mr MacCarthy intends to take off from the Thames behind a power boat, reach 2,500ft in his glider just short of Tower Bridge, release from his tow cable and glide upstream to touch down in the water on the far side of Westminster Bridge. "A rather cold and mucky landing but it is for a good cause," he says.

It will be a simple feat compared with the altitude record attempt planned to take place above Leicestershire in July. Mr MacCarthy, strapped to his hang glider and wearing a pressurized suit and oxygen equipment, will be lifted to a height of 36,000ft beneath Innovation, probably the world's biggest balloon.

"At about 36,000ft I will release and go into an almighty plummet. There are one or two inherent dangers", Mr MacCarthy moderately declared. The first was from the temperatures of 60°C below zero increased to 80° by the chill factor of air rushing across the body. Such cold could make the metal struts of the machine brittle.

The record of 32,000ft was set from a balloon above Mexico four years ago. "The pilot did not get away unscathed. I think he lost some fingers through frostbite," Mr MacCarthy said.

Suspended below him on way to his record altitude will be another two-man hang glider flown by Mr John Moody and Mr Gregory Rogala, who intend to set an altitude record for a two-man machine.

His efforts to set records have been dogged by ill luck. Last April he was rescued from the summit of Mont Blanc, the highest point in Europe, from which he and a companion intended to take off in a two-man glider.

"The conditions were impossible for a two-man flight so my partner volunteered to go down and let me go solo. Then the weather clamped down and I was trapped there for 28 hours."

Mr Donald Cameron, the pilot of Innovation, said there would be no difficulty in lifting the hang gliders to their launch points.

Lords to hear crown appeal

The prosecution in the case of Mr Newton Rose, a black Londoners whose murder conviction was quashed by the Court of Appeal earlier this month, yesterday was given leave to appeal to the Lords on the ground that a matter of "general public importance" had been raised. Mr Rose, aged 21, a decorator of Olinda Road, Stoke Newington, north London, was sentenced to life imprisonment at the Central Criminal Court in December for the stabbing of Mr Tony Donnelly. He was found guilty by a 10 to 2 majority verdict.

Three of his friends who had been sentenced to six months' jail for attempting to pervert the course of justice by backing his alibi, also had their convictions quashed by the Court of Appeal.

The Court of Appeal ruled that the judge's action was a grave material irregularity".

NEWS IN SUMMARY

Peace camp women defy council

Five Newbury district councillors met women from the Greenham Common peace camp in Berkshire yesterday in a last attempt to avoid costly court action to evict them (our Newbury Correspondent writes).

But the women refused to undertake to leave. The council said later that the authority would proceed with obtaining a court order.

A High Court judge is expected to hear the council's petition around Easter. The women have been there since last September in protest at the decision to install United States nuclear cruise missiles at Greenham next year.

Residents say the camp is an eyesore and the council says the women are living illegally on common land.

Appeal against 'sus' law ruling

The House of Lords is to hear a Metropolitan Police appeal against a High Court ruling that courts have no authority to hear further prosecutions under the controversial "sus" laws.

The offence of being a "suspected person loitering with intent" was abolished under the Criminal Attempts Act last August 27. But prosecutions of those charged before that date have continued.

In a test case in the Queen's Bench Divisional Court in February, it was ruled that the law had ceased to have effect. Yesterday the police were granted leave to appeal against the ruling.

Turkey workers end strike

A six-week strike by 1,200 workers at the Bernard Matthews turkey processing factories in Norfolk and Suffolk ended yesterday. They agreed to accept a £6.50 a week pay rise — just 83p more than the company's initial offer.

The workers originally asked for a 32 per cent increase. Last night Mr George Barnard, of the National Union of Agricultural and Allied Workers, said: "We will be back around the negotiations table in nine months.

Regular flights to Plymouth

Brymon Airways yesterday started a service between Heathrow and Plymouth. It will operate twice a day throughout the week, with a single fare of £31.

The service is aimed at business travellers and flying time is about 45 minutes. The airline is owned by Mr William Bryce, a New Zealander.

Paintings remand

Paul Andrew Williams, aged 18, of no fixed address, was remanded in Custody, until April 5, at Bow Street Court, London, yesterday on two charges of causing criminal damage to paintings by Turner and Claude at the National Gallery on Saturday.

Potholers find body

A man's badly decomposed body has been found by potholers at the foot of an old lead mine near Penrhyndeudraeth, North Wales.

Anglican-Catholic Commission report

The limits of pastoral power

This is the text of the sections headed "Jurisdiction" and "Infallibility" of the Final Report of the Anglican-Roman Catholic International Commission, published today:

Jurisdiction in the Church may be defined as the authority or power (*potestas*) necessary for the exercise of an office. In both our communions it is given for the effective fulfilment of office and this fact determines its exercise and limits. It varies according to the specific functions of the *episcope* concerned. The jurisdictions associated with different levels of *episcope* (eg of primates, metropolitans and diocesan bishops) are not in all respects identical.

The use of the same juridical terms does not mean that exactly the same authority is attributed to all those exercising *episcope* at different levels. Where a metropolitan has jurisdiction in his province this jurisdiction is not merely the exercise in a broader context of that exercised by a bishop in his diocese: it is determined by the specific functions which he is required to discharge in relation to his fellow bishops.

Each bishop is entrusted with the pastoral authority needed for the exercise of his *episcope*. This authority is both required and limited by the bishop's task of teaching the faith through the proclamation and explanation of the word of God, of providing for the administration of the sacraments in his diocese and of maintaining his church in holiness and truth. Hence decisions taken by the bishop in performing his task have an authority which the faithful in his diocese have a duty to accept. This authority of the bishop, usually called jurisdiction, involves the responsibility for making and implementing the decisions that are required by his office for the sake of the *koinonia*. It is not the arbitrary power of one man over the freedom of others, but a necessity if the bishop is to serve his flock as its shepherd. So too, within the universal *koinonia* and the collegiality of the bishops, the universal primate exercises the jurisdiction necessary for the fulfilment of his functions, the chief of which is to serve the faith and unity of the whole Church.

Difficulties have arisen from the attribution of universal, ordinary and immediate jurisdiction to the bishop of Rome by the First Vatican Council. Misunderstanding of these technical terms has aggravated the difficulties. The jurisdiction of the bishop of Rome as universal primate is called ordinary and immediate (ie not mediated) because it is inherent in his office; it is called universal simply because it must enable him to serve the unity and harmony of the *koinonia* as a whole and in each of its parts.

The attribution of such jurisdiction to the bishop of Rome is a source of anxiety to Anglicans who fear, for example, that he could usurp the rights of a metropolitan in his province or of a bishop in his diocese; that a centralized authority might not always understand local conditions or respect legitimate cultural diversity; that rightful freedom of conscience, thought and action could be imperilled.

The universal primate should exercise, and be seen to exercise, his ministry not in isolation but in collegial association with his brother bishops. This in no way reduces his own responsibility on ocassion to speak and act for the whole Church. Concern for the universal Church is intrinsic to all episcopal office; a diocesan bishop is helped to make this concern a reality by the universal jurisdiction of the universal primate. But the universal primate is not the source from which diocesan bishops derive their authority, nor does his authority undermine that of the metropolitan or diocesan bishop. Primacy is not an autocratic power over the Church but a service in and to the Church which is a communion in faith and charity of local churches.

Although the scope of universal jurisdiction cannot be precisely defined canonically, there are moral limits to its exercise: they derive from the nature of the Church and of the universal primate's pastoral office. By virtue of his jurisdiction, given for the building up of the Church, the universal primate has the right in special cases to intervene in the affairs of a diocese and to receive appeals from the decision of diocesan bishop. It is because the universal primate, in collegial association with his fellow bishops, has the task of safeguarding the faith and unity of the universal Church that the diocesan bishop is subject to his authority.

The purpose of the universal primate's jurisdiction is to enable him to further catholicity as well as unity and to foster and draw together the riches of the diverse traditions of the churches. Collegial and primatial responsibility for preserving the distinctive life of the local churches involves a proper respect for their customs and traditions, provided these do not contradict the faith or disrupt communion. The search for unity and concern for catholicity must not be divorced.

Even though these principles concerning the nature of jurisdiction be accepted as in line with the understanding which Anglicans and Roman Catholics share with regard to the Church's structure, there remain specific questions about their practical application in a united Church. Anglicans are entitled to assurance that acknowledgement of the universal primacy of the bishop of Rome would not involve the suppression of theological, liturgical and other traditions which they value or the imposition of wholly alien traditions. We believe that what has been said above provides grounds for such assurance. In this connexion we recall the words of Paul VI in 1970: "There will be no seeking to lessen the legitimate prestige and the worthy patrimony of piety and usage proper to the Anglican Church . . ."

Infallibility

It is Christ himself, the Way, the Truth and the Life, who entrusts the Gospel to us and gives to his Church teaching authority which claims our obedience. The Church as a whole, indwelt by the Spirit according to Christ's promise and looking to the testimony of the prophets, saints and martyrs of every generation, is witness, teacher and guardian of the truth. The Church is confident that the Holy Spirit will effectually enable it to fulfil its mission so that it will neither lose its essential character nor fail to reach its goal. We are agreed that doctrinal decisions made by legitimate authority must be consonant with the community's faith as grounded in Scripture and interpreted by the mind of the Church, and that no teaching authority can add new revelation to the original apostolic faith. We must then ask whether there is a special ministerial gift of discerning the truth and of teaching bestowed at crucial times on one person to enable him to speak authoritatively in the name of the Church in order to preserve the people of God in the truth.

Maintenace in the truth requires that at certain moments the Church can in a matter of essential doctrine make a decisive judgment which becomes part of its permanent witness. Such a judgment makes it clear what the truth is, and strengthens the Church's confidence in proclaiming the Gospel. Obvious examples of such judgments are occasions when general councils define the faith. These judgments, by virtue of their foundation in revelation and their appropriateness to the need of the time, express a renewed unity in the truth to which they summon the whole Church.

The Church in all its members is involved in such a definition which clarifies and enriches their grasp on the truth. Their active reflection upon the definition in its turn clarifies its significance. Moreover, although it is not through reception by the people of God that a definition first acquires authority, the assent of the faithful is the ultimate indication that the Church's authoritative decision in a matter of faith has been truly preserved from error by the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit who maintains the Church in the truth will bring its members to receive the definition as true and to assimilate it if what has been declared genuinely expounds the revelation.

The Church exercises teaching authority through various instruments and agencies at various levels. When matters of faith are at stake decisions may be made by the Church in universal councils; we are agreed that these are authoritative. We have also recognized the need in a united Church for a universal primate who, presiding over the *koinonia*, can speak with authority in the name of the Church. Through both these agencies the Church can make a decisive judgment in matters of faith, and so exclude error.

The purpose of this service cannot be to add to the content of revelation, but is to recall and emphasize some important truth; to expound the faith more lucidly; to expose error; to draw out implications not sufficiently recognized; and to show how Christian truth applies to contemporary issues. These statements would be intended to articulate, elucidate or define matters of faith which the community believes at least implicitly. The welfare of the *koinonia* does not require that all the statements of those who speak authoritatively on behalf of the Church should be considered permanent expressions of the truth. But situations may occur where serious divisions of opinion on crucial issues of pastoral urgency call for a more definitive judgment. Any such statement would be intended as an expression of the mind of the Church, understood not only in the context of its time and place but also in the light of the Church's whole experience and tradition. All such definitions are provoked by specific historical situations and are always made in terms of the understanding and framework of their age. But in the continuing life of the Church they retain a lasting significance if they are safeguarding the substance of the faith.

The purpose of the universal primate's jurisdiction is to enable him to . . . foster and draw together the riches of the diverse traditions of the churches. It involves a proper respect for their customs and traditions.

The Church's teaching authourity is a service to which the faithful look for guidance especially in times of uncertainty; but the assurance of the truthfulness of its teaching rests ultimately rather upon its fidelity to the Gospel than upon the character of office of the person by whom it is expressed. The Church's teaching is proclaimed because it is true; it is not true simply because it has been proclaimed. The value of such authoritative proclamation lies in the guidance that it gives to the faithful. However, neither general councils nor universal primates are invariably preserved from error even in official declarations.

The Church's judgment is normally given through synodal decision, but at times a primate acting in communion with his fellow bishops may articulate the decision even apart from a synod. Although responsibility for preserving the Church from fundamental error belongs to the whole Church, it may be exercised on its behalf by a universal primate. The exercise of authority in the Church need not have the effect of stifling the freedom of the Spirit to inspire other agencies and individuals. In fact, there have been times in the history of the Church when both councils and universal primates have protected legitimate positions which have been under attack.

A service of preserving the Church from error has been performed by the bishop of Rome as universal primate both within and outside the synodal process. The judgment of Leo I, for example, in his letter recieved by the Council of Chalcedon, helped to maintain a balanced view of the two natures in Christ. This does not mean that other bishops are restricted to a merely consultative role, nor that every statement of the bishop of Rome instantly solves the immediate problem or decides the matter at issue for ever. To be a decisive discernment of the truth, the judgment of the bishop of Rome must satisfy rigorous conditions. He must speak explicitly as the focus within the *koinonia*; without being under duress from external pressures; having sought to discover the mind of his fellow bishops and of the Church as a whole; and with a clear intention to issue a binding decision upon a matter faith or morals. Some of these conditions were laid down by the First Vatican Council. When it is plain that all these conditions have been fulfilled, Roman Catholics conclude that the judgment is preserved from error and the proposition true. If the definition proposed for assent were not manifestly a legitimate interpretation of biblical faith and in line with orthodox tradition, Anglicans would think it a duty to reserve the reception of the definition for study and discussion.

This approach is illustrated by the reaction of many Anglicans to the Marian definitions, which are the only examples of such dogmas promulgated by the bishop of Rome apart from a synod since the separation of our two communions. Anglicans and Roman Catholics can agree in much of the truth that these two dogmas are designed to affirm. *We agree that there can be but one mediator between God and man, Jesus Christ, and reject any interpretation of the role of Mary* which obscures this affirmation. We agree in recognizing that Christian understanding of Mary is inseparably linked with the doctrines of Christ and of the Church. We agree in recognizing the grace and unique vocation of Mary, Mother of God Incarnate (*Theotokos*), in observing her festivals, and in according her honour in the communion of saints. We agree that she was prepared by divine grace to be the mother of our Redeemer, by whom she herself was redeemed and received into glory. We further agree in recognizing in Mary a model of holiness, obedience and faith for all Christians. We accept that it is possible to regard her as a prophetic figure of the Church of God before as well as after the Incarnation. Nevertheless the dogmas of the Immaculate Conception and the Assumption raise a special problem for those Anglicans who do not consider that the precise definitions given by these dogmas are sufficiently supported by scripture. For many Anglicans the teaching authority of the bishop of Rome, independent of a council, is not recommended by the fact that through it these Marian doctrines were proclaimed as dogmas binding on all the faithful. Anglicans would also ask whether, in any future union between out two Churches, they would be required to subscribe to such dogmatic statements. One consequence of our separation has been a tendency for Anglicans and Roman Catholics alike to exaggerate the importance of the Marian dogmas in themselves at the expense of other truths more closely related to the foundation of the Christian faith.

In spite of our agreement over the need of a universal primacy in a united Church, Anglicans do not accept the guaranteed possession of such a gift of divine assistance in judgment necessarily attached to the office of the bishop of Rome by virtue of which his formal decisions can be known to be wholly assured before their reception by the faithful. Nevertheless the problem about reception is inherently difficult. It would be incorrect to suggest that in controversies of faith no conciliar or papal definition possesses a right to attentive sympathy and acceptance until it has been examined by every individual Christian and subjected to the scrutiny of private judgment. We agree that, without a special charism guarding the judgment of the universal primate, the Church would still possess means of receiving and ascertaining the truth of revelation. This is evident in the acknowledged gifts of grace and truth in churches not in full communion with the Roman see.

Roman Catholic tradition has used the term unfallibility to describe guaranteed freedom from fundamental error in judgment. We agree that this is a term applicable unconditionally only to God, and that to use it of a human being, even in highly restricted circumstances, can produce many misunderstandings. That is why in stating our belief in the preservation of the Church from error we have avoided using the term. We also recognize that the ascription to the bishop of Rome of infallibility under certain conditions has tended to lend exaggerated importance to all his statements.

We have already been able to agree that conciliarity and primacy are complementary. We can now together affirm that the Church needs both a multiple, dispersed authority, with which all God's people are actively involved, and also a universal primate as servant and focus of visible unity in truth and love. This does not mean that all differences have been eliminated; but if any Petrine function and office are exercised in the living Church of which a universal primate is called to serve as a visible focus, then it inheres in his office that he should have both a defined teaching responsibility and appropriate gifts of the Spirit to enable him to discharge it.

Contemporary discussions of conciliarity and primacy in both communions indicate that we are not dealing with positions destined to remain static. We suggest that some difficulties will not be wholly resolved until a practical initiative has been taken and our two Churches have lived together more visibly in the one *koinonia*.

Two other sections cover the (Petrine Texts and the Divine Right (*Jus Divinum*) issues, together with a conclusion. The full text is published by the Catholic Truth Society and the Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge, £1.95, London.



EEC leaders listening to the anniversary speeches yesterday included Mr Dries Van Agt, the Dutch Prime Minister (left), Signor Giovanni Spadolini, the Italian Prime Minister, Mr Andreas Papandreou, the Greek Prime Minister, Mr Anker Joergensen, the Danish Prime Minister, President Mitterrand of France, King Baudouin of the Belgians and Herr Helmut Schmidt, the West German Chancellor.

Borrowed time built in at top hotel

From Peter Hazelhurst Kyoto, March 29

Guests of the Kyoto Century Hotel in central Japan can expect to enjoy an extra three weeks of life if the world is destroyed by nuclear war.

Reflecting the management's pessimistic view of the future, the hotel has been constructed over a massive air-tight nuclear shelter *which can withstand the blast* of an atom bomb and protect 3,000 guests from radioactive fall-out for three weeks.

The hotel's new facility can be sealed off with fireproof, airtight doors and is equipped with special pumps and filters which eliminate radioactive material from the shelter's airducts.

The shelter, which is on two floors of the lower basement of the 252-room hotel in the centre of Kyoto City, has been designed to withstand the direct overhead blast of the type of atom bomb that destroyed Hiroshima.

The engineers who constructed the shelter claim its walls and doors can also withstand the blast of a one-megaton bomb if the centre of the explosion is 1.6 miles from the hotel.

Mr Ryuzo Kutami, one of the managers, said: "This is the first hotel in the world to construct a modern nuclear shelter of this proportion. The shelter was built in line with our policy of providing our guests with the best service and facilities.

"The shelter was built because our president, Mr Ryuzo Ikeuchi, is pessimistic about the future. He is convinced that a nuclear war will break out."

The fireproof doors and walls are made of material which will not buckle or twist even if the external temperature reaches 1,000°C. The managers claim the shelter will be constantly supplied with food, drinking water, medicine and fuel to accommodate as many as 3,000 people for two to three weeks.

The underground shelter has been fitted with 76 lavatories; wash basins and rows of bunk beds are to be installed along the walls. The shelter's electric power is provided by an emergency generator. Oil tanks contain enough fuel to operate the generator for 23 days.

Entrances are controlled by air-locks. A spokesman for the hotel said: "The air-locks are designed to prevent the fall-out from polluting the air in the shelter. When persons who are contaminated by radioactive material or other harmful substances enter the shelter they first themselves under special showers in the airlocks."

The management hoped the facilities would not be used as shelter against a nuclear bomb. But it was necessary "in view of the recent incident at Three Mile Island. We are obliged to provide the facility because there has been an increase in the number of nuclear power stations in Japan. There is the possibility that one of them could be damaged by an earthquake."

EEC holds a gloomy and late 25th birthday party

From Ian Murray, Brussels, March 29

It was a gloomy enough twenty-fifth birthday party — and held in time honoured EEC fashion, a few days late. Mrs Margaret Thatcher, dressed all in deepest black, would not have looked out of place at a state funeral. The nine other heads of government, with serious, lined faces, sat in a solemn row beside her and listened to the none too cheerful celebration speeches from five of Europe's leading men.

This "academic session" *which opened proceedings of* the European summit was a time to reflect on where the Community had travelled together over the past 25 years and a chance to exhort members to much greater efforts for the future.

Mr Gaston Thorn, President of the Commission, gave a Cassandra-like warning that "Europe's achievement is under serious threat from nationalist and protectionist tendencies and from the short view being taken by member-states as the crisis grinds on."

Gloomily, he went on: "The crisis is widening the economic and social gap between the member-states to alarming proportions. It is sapping solidarity and undermining internal cohesion."

This was a not very indirect reference to the quarrel over the size of Britain's budget contribution, a subject not on the agenda for the summit but which is due to be fought over next weekend when the foreign ministers of the Ten meet in Luxembourg to try once again to resolve the question.

The main theme of the summit is to be a study of the economic and social problems of the Communite. Here, Mr Thorn felt "the European idea is losing popularity as a feeling grows that Europe serves no purpose, that it can do nothing to resolve the economic crisis or relieve international tension.

"More generally, I am afraid that commitment to Europe and the political will to complete the construction of Europe, are losing much of their stamina."

Mrs Thatcher: Dressed appropriately for a state funeral

For the Commission President the solution lay in honouring the 25-year-old treaties and giving back to the Commission the authorityt which had been eroded down the yers. The obvious solution for him was majority rule inside the Council.

"The job of politicians," he told his audience of senior politicians," is to make the necessary possible. If they fail history will take its course without them, if not against them."

Mr Piet Dankert, President of the European Parliament, had less faith in the relevance of the treaties than Mr Thorn. "In the absence of poitical motivation among the Europeans and without prospects for the future, they cannot be worth much more than the paper on which they are written," he said.

"The system has ground to a halt and it has therefore become still more difficult to keep the actual development of the Community in step with the objective need for such development.

For the Parliament's President the solution lay in giving greater role to the Parliament. "The Community is too inportant to run the risk of rejection by its citizens," he said.

Mr Josse Mertens de Wilmars, President of the Court of Justice, took an appropriately more detached view. He urged his audience "rather of differ in unity than to be similar in disunity." He emphasized that Community law was one of the preeminent instruments in bringing about the "peaceful change" of European integration.

King Baudouin of the Belgians felt "pride and frustration" when he viewed the unity of the Community. But he *emphasized* the need for unity. "The independence of Europe is extremely relative," he said. "Its dependence is much more apparent. The important question is how to make ourselves interdependent in relation to the other major partners in the world."

He went on: "I am convinced we can delay no longer. It is time for the heads of state and of government of the ten member-countries of the Community to provide a decisive impetus for strengthening of the bonds which unite using the face of these grave realities."

It was left to Mr Leo Tindemans, President of the Council and Belgian Foreign Minister, to try to inject some of the 25-year-old idealism into the occasion. He blamed the need to opt for a Europe of economists and technicians at the outset on the loss of the common European touch.

"While our thoughts focused on solidarity, fraternity and unity, the interest of the peoples of Europe had to be aroused, nay motivated, and their enthusiasm fired by telling them of the rules governing the grading of eggs or size."

Hopes in Europe too often disappointed through the tardiness of its achitevements, he said, but the European citizen had become used to Europe's growing pains. What had been achieved was a priceless heritage which had to be defended unless through ignorance the citizens called them into question.

The Community had to make itself felt more and more by an absence of formalities. "During the years which lie ahead," he said, "Europe must be seen to flower and show a human face."

$200m AID APPEAL FOR SAHEL

From John Earle Rome, March 29

Mr Edouard Saouma, Director-General of the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization, today appealed to rich countries to contribute towards a $200m (£112m) reserve system of coarse grains for the Sahel region of West Africa, which has been repeatedly subject to drought in the last decade.

Total reserves of 465,000 tonnes would be necessary, Mr Saouma told a meeting of potential donor nations from the West and from the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries. A study prepared by the FAO recommended that local grains should be used wherever possible.

Suresh Karadia



Checking the exports

It was an early start for Mr Warren Cooper, the New Zealand Foreign Minister (centre) when he inspected carcasses of New Zealand lamb at Smithfield meat market yesterday (Simon Scott Plummer writes).

Mr Cooper, who took up his present post in December as well as that of Overseas Trade Minister — is on a familiarization tour of Europe. After his visit to the market he had breakfast in a pub near by.

New Zealand exports 245,500 tonnes a year of sheep and goat meat to the EEC under a voluntary restraint agreement. Of this, about 180,000 tonnes is expected to be sold to Britain this year, which marks the centenary of the first shipment of refrigerated cargo from New Zealand to this country.

That event was described by *The Times* as "a triumph over physical difficulties as would have been incredible, and even unimaginable a very few years ago."

Mugabe security chief 'led Pretoria spy ring'

From Stephen Taylor, Salisbury, March 29

A senior Zimbabwe security officer who has left the country and three of his subordinates who have been in detention since December were part of a South African spy ring, a government minister said here.

Mr Geoffrey Price who, as director of close security in the Central Intelligence Organization (CIO), was responsible for the safety of Mr Robert Mugabe, the Prime Minister and of his Cabinet, was declared "an enemy of the state". Last week under a section of the emergency powers regulations which provided for the seizure of his property.

In an interview with *The Herald* newspaper today Mr Emmerson Munangagwa, the Minister of State in the Prime Minister's office, said Mr Price had fled to Britain and then South Africa in January "when we discovered that he was head of one of Pretoria's spy rings in the country." He gave no more details of the allegation.

Mr Price, a former chief superintendent in the Zimbabwe police, was in command of three white members of the CIO who were arrested on New Year's eve for allegedly being illegally in possession of weapons.

Sources said today that shortly after the arrests Mr Price applied for and was granted leave for a brief trip to Britain to visit a relative.

Mr Munangagwa said Mr Price had gone to Britain, but was now in South Africa. "When he knew we were on the right trail he fled".

Coalition sought after split Salvador vote

From Paul Ellman, San Salvador, March 29

With all the signs pointing towards an inconclusive outcome to the elections here, El Salvador's political leaders today began a series of contacts designed to assess the possibility of forming a coalition government.

The contacts attracted the active support of the United States embassy here which has let it be known that it hopes that a future government here will be as broadly-based as possible and also committed to at least the principle of negotiations with left-wing guerrillas who launched a series of attacks in an attempt to disrupt Sunday's election.

The guerrillas, meanwhile, continued to make their presence felt by staging a number of attacks in the capital last night and by virtually overruning a key provincial capital in the southeast of the country.

As results continued to dribble in, early returns put the Christian Democrats of President Jose Napoleon Duarte in first place and the extreme right-wing Nationalist Republican Alliance (Arena), headed by Major Roberto D'Aubuisson, in second place but with neither of them looking like securing an overall majority.

With approximately a fifth of the votes counted, the Christian democrats had just over 40 per cent and Arena almost 30 per cent.

Running third was the National conciliation Party (PCN), a conservative grouping which served as the official party of the dictatorship for 18 years until the 1979 coup by reformist officers. The PCN looked like finally picking up just over 16 per cent of the vote.

In fourth position was Acion Democratica, a party supporting free enterprise and headed by a former dean of the law school at El Salvador's National University, Dr Rene Fortin Magaña.

Despite the clear ideological differences the PCN and Democratic Action, the Christian Democrats leaders today were anxiously arguing that this did not mean that they could not work together in a coalition government.

"The worst people in the PCN have deserted it for Arena while Democratic Action is committed to representational democracy as much as we are," said Señor Julio Rey Prendes, who is ranked third in the party's hierarchy.

Major D'Aubuisson, however, had also been lookng at the election arithmetic and said that a more natural ruling alliance would be between Arena and the other two right-wing parties, pointedly, however, did not exclude the possibility of sharing power in a team which included Señor Duarte.

The major was conciliatory, dismissing the abuse he heaped on the Christian Democrats during the campaign as electoral folklore.

The United States, meanwhile, made its first move towards ending the impasse created by the results, all four Salvadoran party leaders were invited to a luncheon at the residence of the American ambassador, Mr Deane Hinton, who said that the massive turnout of voters on Sunday, despite the violence surrounding the poll, had been a defeat for the guerrillas of the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Movement.



East Germany fetes Jaruzelski

Berlin, March 29. — East Germany today welcomed General Jaruzelski, Poland's military ruler, in a huge display of support for his martial law polices.

Almost the entire ruling politburo, including Herr Erich Honecker, the Head of State (seen above with the general), Herr Willi Stoph, the Prime Minister, General Heinz Hoffmann, the Defence Minister and Herr Harry Tisch, the trade union leader, greeted General Jaruzelski at the airport.

Thousands of police and plain clothes state security men guarded the 18-mile route through the city, which was kined by flag-waving factory workers and schoolchildren

General Jaruzelski visited Moscow at the beginning of this month and is due to go to Prague soon in what appears to be a tour to show his allies that Poland is safely back in the communist fold.

Red banners, displayed in quantities unseen in East Berlin for some years, carried slogans declaring "by the side of the USSR for the preservation of peace "and" together for anti-imperialist solidarity".

During talks in the party Central Committee building, Herr Honecker told General Jaruzelski that the imposition of martial law in Poland had his "full understanding" — exactly the phrase used by president Brezhnev when the general visited Moscow.

Herr Honecker said that martial law had been necessary in view of the acute danger to socialism posed by counter-revolution. East Geemany would continue as before to support all true Polish patriots and communists in their difficult struggle to strengthen the communist order in the country.

Warsaw: An influential Polish editor called today for the legal abolition of the Solidarity free trade union, arguing that the movement must be rebuilt.

Mr Zdzislaw Morawksi wrote in *Zycie Warszawy* that he believed it would be politically, technically and organizationally impossible to recreate the unions as they were before martial law was imposed in December.

"The only realistic and politically honest thing to do would be legally to dissolve all the trade unions and begin establishing the movement from scratch," he said.

Mr Francizek Kaim, the former Deputy Prime Minister, was jailed in Warsaw today for one year and fined about £1,900 on corruption charges. — Reuter.

Finance Minister criticizes Mauroy

From Charles Hargrove, Paris, March 29

M Jacques Delors, the French Minister of Finance, for months has been preaching moderation and realism, with little or no effect on his more political colleagues in the Government who indulge in an excess of promises and demagoguery.

He now considers that both the recent speculation against the franc and the sharp warning given to the left in the local elections have proved him rifht and given him a better chance of being heard. Twice in the last few days he has made tart remarks which amount to saying that the time for day dreaming is over and it is necessary to face facts.

He told a press briefing last Friday: "Now that the esential aspect of reforms has been achieved, at least in their first stage, it is necessary to enforce them correctly in a spirit of dialogue".

"The managers must take over the first place," M Delors said, in an obvious reference to himself and an equally obvious dig at the politicians, primarily M Pierre Mauroy, the Prime Minister, who chose to give a sharply political twist to the local elections, with hardly convincing results: This is what the Finance Minister refers to euphemistically as the "degradation of the psychological climate" during the local election campaign.

He also deplored the fact that France had lapsed into what he called "an excessive taste for decrees". This was an indirect criticism of the large instalment of social decrees issued by the Government in the last three months some of which, like the reduction in the working week and retirement at 60, were ill-conceived and ill-prepared.

After the excessive spell of government by decree, M Delors wants a revival of the process of collective bargaining and the achievement of a concensus which has always been his pet objective. The Government's social measures must lead to Frenchmen "working more collectively" to reduce unemployment, otherwise "France will not succeed in the operation of work sharing" launched by the government.

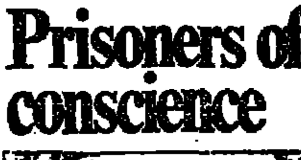
A fifth week's holiday must not be an additional week (irrespective of the present length of people's holidays, which is how the Government decree tends to be interpreted by the unions) but a fifth week for everyone. "Otherwise there can be no talk of solidarity."

"One cannot have the butter and the money to buy the butter," M Delors remarked. It is one of his favourite aphorisms.

He said there could be no concessions about winding up the system of guaranteed resources instituted by the previous Government, which ensured 70 per cent of their earnings to those who voluntarily went into early retirement.

The Finance Minister said he agreed with the President of the CNPF, the employers' federation, that the costs of firms must not be allowed to increase any further. He was referring to a warning by the federation that firms run the risk of being "the castaways of a costly social policy."

He called on the Government to introduce a pause of 12 to 18 months in the place of reforms in order to enable firms to recover their breath. He estimated at some 80,000m francs (£7,200m) the increased burden of the Government's social measures.



Prisoners of conscience



Czechoslovakia: Jan Litomisky

By Caroline Moorehead

An agronomist active in the country's human rights movement is now serving a three-year prison sentence for "subversion". Mr Jan Litomisky signed Charter 77 (the human rights document) in 1977 and in 1979 joined VONS, the Committee for the Defence of the Unjustly Persecuted. Throughout 1980 he was continually harassed by the authorities, being interrogated and having his house searched. On October 17, 1981 Mr Litomisky was arrested and brought to trial before the regional court of Ceske Budejovice. The charges against him were based largely on his activities in VONS. He was accused of having collected and disseminated anti-state matetials and of damaging Czechoslvakia by his contacts abroad.

The indictment mentioned his "negative attitude" towards the Soviet Union, and conduct "not conforming to the social norm" — based on his possession of a copy of the late Andrei Amalrik's *Will the USSR survive until 1984?* and the testimony of two witnesses that he had not been suitably dressed at a graduation party.

Mr Litomisky's appeal was rejected by the Supreme Court in Prague in January.

US denies plans to invade Nicaragua

By Our Foreign Staff

By Our Foreign Staff – The United States had no plans to invade Nicaragua or use proxy forces to do so, a senior State Department official said in a BBC film shown on *Panorama* last night.

Mr Stephen Bosworth, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Inter-American Affairs, said that the United States Government was not engaged in an operation to destabilize the Central American republic.

In an interview with Jeremy Paxman, he said that the Sandinist Administration was "clearly a government of revolution". The Nicaraguans were fast putting themselves in a position where they were more powerful than any combination of forces that could be brought against them by their neighbours.

This put them is an impregnable position to expect subversion.

Señor Alfonso Robelo, leader of the opposition Nicaraguan Democratic Movement, said in an interview filmed there that there must be about 5,000 or 6,000 Cubans in Nicaragua. Most to them had key roles in the Government. "It's similar to the role of the Russians in Poland", he said.

This claim was vehemently denied by Father Miguel d'Escote, the Nicaraguan Foreign Minister. He described the allegation as a terrific lie. "If you were to add them all up it would not come up to 2,000", he said.

There were "very, very few" Russians. "We have diplomatic relations with the Soviet Union. There are personnel here at the embassy. We also have on loan from the Soviet Union a couple of helicopters", he said.

Señor Pedro Chamooro, editor of *La Prensa* the main opposition newspaper, and son of the editor assassinated during the Somoza dictatorship, was pessimistic about the paper's prospects under the Sandinistas.

Paris roads blocked by lorries

From Our Own Correspondent Paris, March 29.

The National Federation of French Teamsters (FNTR), which has a membership of about 23,000 transport firms, big and small, in the country, caused widespread traffic delays and stoppages throughout France today by staging a day of protest and of demonstration.

For several hours they blocked the ring road round Paris and access to the Paris region and to many provincial centres and towns; and they set up road blocks on some of the main motorways from the capital, especially to the north, east and south. It was the biggest protest action over staged by the teamsters.

One of their favourite weapons is what they call operation snail with three or four 34-tonne lorries moving abreast at 5 or 10 kilometres and hour on busy thoroughfares and effectively snarling up traffic.

Two years ago an Operation Snail on the ring motorway around Paris caused serious disruption of traffic with only 50 or so lorries taking part. Today's larger-scale manoeuvre led to chaos with jams stretching for miles.

At the Mont Blanc tunnel this morning all access was blocked by about 50 trailer lorries and twice the number jammed the toll barrier in both directions at Villefranche, near Lyons.

The recent increase in the price of diesel, while the price of petrol was slightly reduced, was the last straw for the lorry-men, coming on top of a whole series of grievances and misunderstandings. Like the fishermen and taxi-drivers, they are concerned at the Socialist Government's preference for rail over road transport, its pegging of tariffs, and what they call the threat of collectivization and of the nationalization of freight.

The chairman of the FNTR, M Georges Rateau, issued an ultimatum to the Prime Minister this morning. If he were not received in audience by 5pm today the protest action would take a tougher turn.

However, it seemed tonight that he had withdrawn the ultimatum

Congress thwarted in India

From Kuldip Nayar Delhi, March 29

The ruling Congress (I) Party has failed to get a two-thirds majority in the Rajya Sabha, the Upper house of the Indian Parliament, in the biennial elections ending today.

This comes as an relief to the opposition, which fears an amendment to the constitution for the introdution of the presidential system in place of parliamentary government which India has been following since indepenedence.

Under the constitution an amendment has to have a two-third majority in both houses of parliament.

Congress lost a few seats because of cross-voting, when some of its members voted for opposition candidates in the secret ballot. This is disconcerting for the party which is already facing an incipient revolt from the followers of Mr Sanjay Gandhi, who were addressed yesterday by his widow, Mrs Maneka Gandhi, despite Mrs Indira Gandhi's opposition.

Out of 19 upper house which have gone to the opposition, five have been won by the Communists in West Bengal. There was no poll in Kerala or Assam because both legislatures have been dissolved pending new elections.

LAWYERS HOLD UP CHILD CASE

From Christopher Thomas New York, March 29

Prosecution lawyers are refusing to go ahead with the trial of a six-year-old Florida girl accused of aggravated battery, a charge that usually carries a heavy prison sentence for convicted adults.

The mothers of Nancy Jo Burch and the seven-year-old, Shirley Nichols, whom she struck with a stick have failed to reach an agreement out of court.

The state prosecutor, Mr Eugene Whitworth, said that the best interests of the child had been forgotten and Judge R. A. Green said yesterday that he was upset that the case had arisen.

At first the parents of the child who was struck pushed for full criminal proceedings but now, for reasons not fully explained, Nancy Jo's parents want the hearing to go head. Mr Alan Wilhite, the defence lawyer said only that the parents believed in the jury system: "I am trying to protect a sweet little girl", he said.

Previously, the defence had sought dismissal of the case on the grounds that under common law a child aged under seven is not capable of committing a criminal offence.

Judge Green described the case as a symptom of something much larger.

GUARDS KILL ESCAPER

Kassel, West Germany. — An East German using a bulldozer to try to flee to the West was shot dead by communist border guards near the West German town of Bad Sooden, West German police said.

Canada Bill receives assent

By George Clark

Exactly 115 years after the British North America Act, leading to Canada's first constitution, was signed by Queen Victoria, the Canada Bill giving complete constitution-making powers to Canada received the Royal Assent yesterday

The Queen's approval was notified to the House of Lords by Lord Hailsham of St Marylebone, the Lord Chancellor. A party of officials from Canada House were in the gallery to watch the final stage of a controversial constitutional process which began in Canada two years ago

Until four months ago, when Canadian provincial governments were at loggerheads with Mr Pierre Trudeau and the federal government, it appeared that the dispute would be transferred to Westminster. But when agreement was reached with nine of the ten provincial governments this was accpeted by most politicians at Westminster as reflecting substantial support for the proposals. The Bill sent from Ottawa ws passed without amendment.

Quebec is still in opposition. Mr Gilles Loiselle, Quebec's Agent-General in London, said last night: "We still feel that a request not supported by Quebec is not a valid one but, apart from that, I suppose we must be practical and live with it."

The ueen wil;l take part in a ceremony proclaiming the new constiution in Ottawa on April 17

Property threats raise tension in West Bank

From Our Own Correspondent, Jerusalem, March 29

Israel has given a warning to the Jordanians that if they carry out their threat to seize property in Jordan belonging to members of the newly formed West Bank village leagues, Israel will do the same to the property of Jordanians in the territory conquered in 1967.

the warning signals a further increase in tension between the two countries after the recent statement from Amman that Palestinian village league members who did not resign within a month would be sentenced to death as traitors.

A senior Israeli official pointed out that King Hussein was among a number of leading Jordanians with substantial properties in the occupied West Bank.

The official, who claimed that Israel took a grave view of the Jordanian threat added: "We must remind the Jordanian leaders that they have property in Judea and Sumaria and we will not stand by if village league *members are divested of* their property."

Since the recent West Bank unrest nearly two weeks ago, Amman radio has been broadcasting a lnumber of fiery, patriotic Palestinian songs in its normal entertainment programmes which are beamed throughout th West Bank.

Today there was another clash between Israeli settlers an Arab demonstrators in the West Bank when a Palestinian youth was shot and seriously wounded after a crowd attacked the two Israeli cars on the main road, south of Bethlehem. The Arabs had been erecting barricades across the road.

According to Israel radio the Jewish civilian who shot the Palestinian with his pistl was a leading official in a *Palestinian group of Jewish* settlements, nearby, known as the Etzion Block.

The radio said that the man's car had been destroyed and that he had been injured during the throwing of stones and blazing tyres. The incident is the latest in a growing number of Arab attacks on Israeli civilian vehicles

Lafor, a curfew was clamped on the Arab village of Hadar where the attack took place. By early tonight three other West Bank villages were under curfew after another day of Arab unrest and three more were *under army* blockade with none of the Palestinian residents being allowed to enter or leave.

In East Jerusalem, all journalists from two Arabic newspapers — *Al Fajir* and Al Shaab — staged a 24-hour protest strike against the Israeli Army's repeated refusal to allow the heavily censored papers to circulate anywhere in the West Bank.

Carrington visit seen as rebuff to PLO

From Christopher Walker
Jerusalem, March 29

Mr David Kimche, director-general of Israel's Foreign Ministry, said today that Israel had never feared that Lord Carrington might cancel this week's official visit as a result of Arab pressure caused by the security crisis in the occupied West Bank.

He also disclosed that Israel would be proposing that the British Government should introduce parliamentary legislation to outlaw companies from participating in the Arab boycott of Israel, similar to laws which have already been introduced in France and America.

Mr Kimche made clear that Israel would be flatly rejecting the thrust of Britain's policy that there should be mutual recognition between Israel and the Palestine liberation Organization, using the latest wave of West Bank violence to back up its arguments.

In an interview with *The Times*, on the eve of the Foreign Secretary's controversial 48-hour visit to Jerusalem, Mr Kimche said: "We were convinced that once Lord Carrington said that he would come, he would not be put off by the instigations and provocations of the PLO. We had no doubts and we are happy he is coming."

He added that the Israels Government had not yet decided how to react publicly to one of the most contentious elements in the visit — a plan by a senior Foreign Office official to hold talks with Mr Karim Khalef and Mr Bassam Shaka, two of the elected Palestinian mayors dismissed from their West



Lord Carrington: An open policy

Menachem Begin: spate of personal attacks

Bank posts last week by Israel.

Lord Carrington will not be crossing to the annexed section of the city for private meetings with Britain's consul-general.

During today's interview Mr Kimche said: "We welcome the visit greatly. We have always held feelings of friendship for Great Britain, and we are sorry that there has been a period recently in which there appeared to be differences of opinion between us. We hope very much for a closer relationship in the furure."

He cited Britain's enthusiastic support for the EEC's Venice declaration as he main cause for the recent deterioration in Israeli-British relations. "We hope that this time we shall hear from Lord Carrington a more forthcoming attitude regarding the Camp David peace process."

Asked to explain Isreal's belief that such a change in Britain's Middle East policy might be imminent, Mr Kimch said: "First of all, British troops are in the Sinai peace-keeping force and, secondly, the mere fact that Lord Carrington is coming to visit us. We hope that there has been a reassessment regarding the Camp David process.

Lord Carrington will be the first British Foreign Secretary to pay an official visit to Israel since 1978. He comes at a time when relations have been strained by a number of factors ranging from personal attacks against him by Mr Menachem Begin, the Prime Inister, to the embarrassing absence of any senior British representative at last year's funeral of Moshe Dayan, the Israeli war hero.

It is understood that during this week's talks Israel has no intention of raising the latest cause of diplomatic embarrassment — the arrest earlier this month of Miss Rhona Ritchie, the First Secretary at the British Embassy, on a charge under the Official Secrets Act. She has now been released in England on £10,000 bail.

Mr Kimche explained today that senior Israeli ministers will spell out to Lord Carrington their conviction that the latest wave of West Bank violence was deliberately provoked by the PLO to coicide with the scheduled withdrawal of Israel from Sinai.

They will argue that the PLO was forced to instigate the disturbances as a result of its weakened state caused by the continuing ceasefire along Israel's northern border and renewed Jordanian interest threatening its position in the West Bank.

Mr Kimche claimed that Israel had no real choice but *to dismiss Mr Ibrahim Tawil*, the Mayor of El-Bireh, once he had refused openly to cooperate with the civil administration. "The only other alternative would have been to agree with him, and that would have created anarchy which could have spread to Lebanon, because anarchy is a contagious disease."

He added that Lord Carrington would also be told of Israel's strong opposition to what it sees as European encouragement of the PLO, which has worked to undermine what he described as "moderates" among Palestinians in the West Bank prepared to work with the autonomy scheme.

Coup plot link denied by secret agent

From Richard Wigg
Madrid, March 29

A Spanish secret agent denied at the coup court martial today that he was the *vital link man involving the* Defence Ministry's intelligence network in the assault on Parliament. Captain Vicente Gomez Iglesias's testimony contradicts that of three other defendants. He said he had only "a personal friendship" with Lieutenant-Colonel Antonio Tejero, who allegedly led "the attack" on Parliament.

Captain Gomez Iglesias was the second agent of the special operations branch of Cesid, the country's chief intelligence agency, to deny any involvement by the agency in the coup plot.

The chief military prosecutor appears to be trying to implicate not only Cesid agents but, through Major José Cortina (the captain's immediate superior), the former deputy Army chief, General Alfonso Armada, both of whom have denied any involvement in the plot.

The prosecutor confronted Captain Gomez with testimony by Colonel Miguel Manchodo and Captain José Abad, both stationed at the Civil Guard's transport headquarters in Madrid, that his intervention was crucial in persuading them to provide the means for Colonel Tejero's assault operation, because they assumed that his presence indicated that the intelligence agency was behind it. They both said Captain Gomez corroborated Colonel Tejero's alleged ex*planation that he needed the* Civil Guards for a national operation to resolve the political situation.

Captain Gomez replied: "I was only supporting Colonel Tejerpo because of my experience of his personality, not because I had any prior information." The captain also claimed that he happened to be passing by, going to attend a course, when he overheard Colonel Tejero's remarks.

Contradicting Colonel Tejero, Captain Gomez denied he met him on two occasions days before February 23 last year and that he had arranged for radio telephones and a specially equipped car with false number plates belonging to Cesid to lead Colonel Tejero's column of six buses carrying almost 300 Civil Guards to Parliament.

"I cannot go into the reasons why Colonel Tejero says that", Captain Gomez told the prosecutor, who had asked why he was "denying" his friend, whom minutes before he had also praised as an excellent commander. The two had become friends while serving in the Basque country years before. All contacts in Madrid were only on family occasions, Captain Gomez claimed.

In earlier testimony a Civil Guard corporal working for Cesio told the investigating magistrate that he knew one week before the coup attempt that he had been assigned by the special operations branch to a "delicate mission" which allegedly turned out to be guiding the columns of buses to Parliament, using a car equipped with low-frequency telephones so that the poice could not listen in.

Colonel Tejero has told the court that special telephones he received from Cesid for use when inside Parliament were a "disaster". He could not make them work for even one call.

The Government last year put through a limited *reform* of the intelligence agency, nominating a democratically-inclined Army Colonel as the new chief, but has not put the agency directly under the Prime Minister's office to emphasize civilian control. This remains a long-term goal.

NEWS IN SUMMARY

India lets pilots give evidence

Delhi. — India will allow the pilot and co-pilot of an Air India airliner to go to the Seychelles to testify in a South African trial of 43 mercenaries accused of hijacking the aircraft after an abortive coup attempt last November.

A South African judge trying the men in Pietermaritzburg empowered a commission to take the pilots' evidence in the Seychelles after India had refused to allow them to go to South Africa. Delhi has no diplomatic relations with Pretoria.

An Indian Foreign Ministry spokesman said that Mr Umesh Saxena, the pilot, and Mr Sunil Misra would be permitted to be examined in the Seychelles by a non-South African judge. The mercenaries are accused of hijacking the aircraft to Durban.

Island families settle for £5m

About 900 families evicted by the British Government from the Chagos Archipelago in the Indian Ocean 17 years ago have accepted compensation worth £4m. They were moved to make way for an Anglo-American military base in Diego Garcia.

The islanders, who now live in Mauritius, are also to receive land worth £1m from the Mauritian authorities. The final agreement between the islanders and Britain was completed at the weekend after *five* days of negotiations in Port Louis, capital of Mauritius.

Death sentence for car deaths

Reno, Nevada. — An all-white jury has recommended that a 53-year-old black woman be executed in the Nevada gas chamber for murdering six people by hitting them with her car on a crowded Reno street. The judge will formally pass the death sentence.

Twenty-three other people were injured when Mrs Priscilla Ford's car careered along the pavement in November, 1980. Mrs Ford, who had pleaded not guilty by reason of insanity, said she believed she was Jesus Christ and the deaths were an accident.

Work to rule by pilots

Madrid. — Iberia Airlines pilots will begin an indefinite work to rule on Sunday. It will coincide with the peak spring travel period in Spain, Holy Week, and is expected to cause numerous flight delays.

The pilots union said they were demanding that their civil aviation qualification certificates be officially equated to university degrees.

Bomb at home of politician

Stockholm. — A letter bomb at the home of Mr Kjell-Olof Feldt, Sweden's shadow finance Minister, caused considerable damage but no injury.

Mr Feldt, a Social Democrat, is a controversial figure in Sweden after saying that taxes must be raised to support the welfare state if his party wins the autumn general election.

48 die in ferry

Rangoon. — At least 48 people were killed and 81 were reported missing when a ferry sank in a storm 20 miles south west of Rangoon.

Oryx comes back from the edge of extinction

By Tony Samstag

An Arabian oryx has been born in the wild only weeks after re-introduction of the species to its desert homeland in Oman, the World Wildlife Fund (WWF) said yesterday. The oryx, a handsome species of antelope, became extinct in the wild 10 years ago, but a captive herd of about 150 has been maintained in the *United* States.

Ten animals from the herd were released into the Jidat al-Harasis desert on the fringes of the empty quarter last month, after several years of preparation that included a period of re-adjustment in large open pens. The Sultan of Oman has taken a personal interest in the project, which is under the day-to-day control of a small nomadic tribe, the Harasis.

The Arabian oryx, thought by some to be the origin of the unicorn legend, is also known for its ability to go *for years without drinking*, gathering moisture only from desert vegetation and morning dew.

The WWF, which said it was jubilant, noted that the beasts' other claim to fame, a brilliant white summer coat, had begun to re-develop within months of their arrival from the United States.

As if to celebrate the birth, the desert has had heavy rain for the first time in five years, which will provide new vegetation that "will aid the raising of the young and should promote further breeding".

More oryxes are to be released in Oman, and work has begun on a site in Jordan for a similar scheme.



NEWS IN SUMMARY

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Island families settle for £5m

Death sentence for car deaths

Work to rule by pilots

Bomb at home of politician

Back from extinction

US puts 'yellow rain' evidence to Nato officials

From Frederick Bonnart Brussels, March 29

Reports of thousands, even tens of thousands, of people being exposed to chemical warfare agents used by the Soviet union — either directly or through its allies — in Afghanistan, Laos and Cambodia were presented at Nato headquarters today by American officials.

The officials maintained that evidence gathered from hundreds of independent sorces in widely different areas had confirmed to trained investigators that toxings, as well as chemical agents, had been used and were being used in these three countries.

They repeated last week's report to the United States Congress by Mr Alexander Haig, the secretary of state, and said that Laotian and Vietnamese forces under direct Soviet supervision had employed lethal toxins and chemical agents in Laos against guerrillas resisting government control and their villages. Thousands were killed in the attacks and many others, were driven away from the attacked areas.

In Cambodia, Vietnamese forces had used toxins on Khmer Rouge troops and villages, while in Afghanistan, the Soviet forces themselves had used a variety of chemical agents against the insurgents.

The officials point out that the Laotian and Vietnamese troops could only have received materials from the Soviet Union since they are unable to manufacture them themselves, while Soviet forces in Afghanistan were known to store these agents in bulk.

The effects on individuals examined and the eye-witness reports of refugees interviewed have convinced the officials that the Soviet Union is using this method deliberately, partly for experimental reasons. But Moscow's main purpose is said to be practical successes on difficult mountainous terrain, where chemical warfare is a cheaper way of dealing with isolated guerrilla groups or hostile population centres than deploying large bodies of troops.

British and other Nato diplomats, however remain fairly sceptical, although British scientists are now analysing samples produced by the United States.

A British official said that if the attacks had really been on the reported scale a great deal more evidence would have been available. Nevertheless, the American evidence is not being dismissed especially since the Soviet Union, contraty to international agreements, has continued to refuse to shed light on an outbreak of anthrax at Severdlovsk.

Observers here consider the "motivation" argument to be the weakest point. The Soviet Union is a signatory of the 1925 Geneva protocol outlawing chemical and biological warfare and the 1972 biological and toxin weapons convention.

It seems difficult to believe that, at a time when the Soviet Union is trying to obtain maximum publicity for its stance of advocating arms control, it should risk jeopardizing this position for the sake of practical advantages in distant theatres of operation.

□Bangkok: Vietnam today dismissed the State department report on chemical war in Sounth-East Asia as "slanderous" (AFP reports). The report is aimed at "weakening the impact of Soviet initiatives for peace", the Hanoi Cummunist party newspaper *Nahan Dan* said. The newspaper was quoted by the Vietnamese news agency in a report monitored here.

Everest camp is set up

Peking, March 29. — A British expedition planning to scale Mount Everest by the unclimbed east-north-east ridge has established a base camp at the bottom of the East Rongbuk glacier, the team said in a message received here today.

They said the camp was situated on bleak, wind-swept gravel and that the face of the ridge could be seen at the head of the glacier 12 miles to the south.

The temperature at the base camp sometimes reached −15°F and was 17,000ft above sea level.

The six-man team led by Chris Bonington is the first British expedition to attempt the mountain from the Chinese side since 1938. Mr Bonington said in Peking last month that the worst problem consisted of several tooth-like rock towers, the tallest about 200ft high. — Reuter.



Mr Weinberger peering into North Korea from an observation post near Panmunjom.

Soldiers 'preying on refugees'

Kaia, Sudan-Uganda Border, March 29. — Ugandan civilians who fled to Zaire to escape fighting in the north of their own country have been robbed of all their belongings by Zairean soldiers and in some cases killed, according to survivors who have moved to Sudan in search of a safer refuge.

A herdsman who mananged to take 10 head of cattle with him when he sought refuge with his family in Zaire from fighting in his home area vetween government troops and rebel tribesmen, said Zairean soldiers not only seized the herd, but took his clothes and a radio.

"Any young Ugandan in good health who arrives in Zaire is suspected of having been a soldier for Idi Amin (the former dictator) and is constantly harassed."

He and others among the thousands of Ugandans in the camp here said Ugandan soldiers had made a number of raids into Zaire in pursuit of the refugees.

The incursions were mentioned by Mr Sjoerd van Schooneveld, who was posted here by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees. He said the refugees were often in an atrocious state tired out, sick and undernourished, sometimes having taken two to three months to reach the Sudanese frontier. — AFP.

Weinberger pledges to boost S Korea forces

Seoul, March 29.—Mr Caspar Weinberger, the American Defence Secretary, said today that the United States was ready to meet an increased communist threat in the Pacific area by raising its own military strength and that of South Korea. Combined American-South Korean militay strength was adequate to counter the threat from North Korea, but North Korean and Soviet strength was increasing, he said.

Noting that the United States was planning a big arme build-up over the next five years, Mr Weinberger said America had made it clear that it intended to remain a Pacific power.

The Defence Secretary, on a three-country trip in Asia, made his remarks at a lecture and expanded on them to reporters accompanying him on his trip. He said in his lecture, one of a series marking the 100th anniversary of United States-Korean ties, that Washington had been committed to South Korea's security since the end of the Second World War.

"The United States has an unswerving commitment to render prompt and effective assistance to repel armed invasion of the Republic of Korea," he stated.

But the threat had become more formidable in recent years, with the Soviet Union embarking on a more aggressive foreign policy and North Korea increasing its military strength. Mr Weinberger cited the Soviet intervention in Afghanistan, pressure it put on Poland to impose martial law, and its policies in such places as El Salvador and Angola through surrogate forces.

The North Korean build-up, still under way, had given it an advantage over the South in combat divisions, tanks, artillery and armoured personnel carriers. However, he did not mean to imply that South Korea was in danger of an imminent, successful attack from the North.

Mr Weinberger will open a two-day South Korean-American security consultative meeting tomorrow to review the North Korean threat and the ability of the 39,000 United States troops in South Korea and South Korea's own forces to counter the threat.

He told reporters that one of the most important reasons for his visit was to emphasize the United States commitment to South Korea's defence.

During his weekend visit to Tokyo, Mr Weinberger believes, he made good progress in talks with Japanese leaders to try to persuade them to increase arms spending to meet a growing Soviet threat, a senior American official said in Tokyo. The Defence Secretary also felt that any new increases would take time and would need the consensus of the Japanese people. — Reuter.

East-West dialogue falters

Moscow decides to wait for Reagan to leave the stage

From Michael Binyon Moscow, March 29

Speaking in Minsk four years ago, President Brezhnev coined a phrase that has remained central to Soviet strategic thinking ever since. He warned the United States not to "play the China card" and said Washington would live to regret the day it encouraged Peking's anti-Soviet line.

Last week, on another provincial tour, the Soviet leader attempted to trump Washington's hand with a China card of his own. Although his overtures to Peking have received a frosty and predictable reply in public, the Russians appear quietly confident that they are still able to deal Washington some nasty surprises.

For two decades the Russians attempted to balance their uneasy triangular relationship with Peking and Washington by leaning towards the West. Promoting military security through a policy of detente and concentrating on arms control agreements with the United States instead of the apparently fruitless search for an accommodation with China.

This policy is changing. Both here and in Washington the Russians are complaining loudly that they cannot talk to the Americans any more. They regard the Reagan Administration as implacably anti-Soviet, uninterested in dialogue with Moscow and intent only in reestablishing Western military superiority while undermining the Soviet Union's ideological foundations at home and abroad.

Russians believe they cannot do business with Washington

In effect, the Russians have given up. They have talked themselves into believing they cannot conduct serious business with the present Administration. Instead, Soviet analysts are looking with satisfaction at the President's unpopular economic policies, the growth of peace movements in Europe and the United States, Western worries over American policies in Europe, the Middle East and Central America, and conclude they have only to wait three years before Mr Reagan is swept from office by a Democratic candidate with whom they can speak again.

The situation is too dangerous, however, for the Russians simply to wait. Something has to be worked out now if Nato is to be stopped from deploying the medium-range missiles which the Russians see as the greatest threat to their Western flank. Something has to be done to counter the American programmes to produce chemical weapons, to raise the defence budget, to stiffen the Nato posture to Moscow and to take on the Russians around the world.

The search for a dialogue with Washington, therefore, has to go on. But the talks in Geneva, Vienna or New York are seen here as a holding operation, a way of keeping the door ajar rather than a route to real progress.

The Soviet press has voiced deliberate pessimism over the Geneva talks on medium-range missiles. It accuses the Americans of ignoring Soviet disarmament proposals at the United Nations, breaking off talks on the Indian Ocean, slighting President Brezhnev's initiatives and showing no interest in going forward with strategic arms control.

The Americans deny any deliberate cutback in the dialogue, saying that the Russians simply do not like what they are being told on Poland, Afghanistan and chemical weapons. Instead, Washington accuses the Russians of stalling, playing to the European gallery, refusing to put forward any real proposals and simply dressing up known positions in new propaganda clothes.

For a variety of reasons the Russians are in no mood to offer military concessions or back down in Poland or Afghanistan. First, they do not believe in American good faith.

Stung by tough rhetoric and seizing on the speeches of Administration figures they have identified as dyed-in-the-wool anti-communists including President Reagan himself they cite talks about the end of detente and confronting the Soviet threat as proof that Washington is only looking for ways of exploiting Soviet weakness.

Secondly, the Russians are confused by the changing policy on arms control in Washington. Moscow reckons it better to wait and see rather than offer unnecessary concessions while the hard line prevails.

Thirdly, the Russians see the world situation as threatening to them, compounded by their own internal economic difficulties. They cannot afford any concessions or sign of weakness when they have their backs to the wall. Just as the West will not negotiate from a position of military weakness, so Moscow has to keep its military spending to keep its superpower credibility.

The aged politburo will not embrace radical new policies

Fourthly, the political situation at home is likely to preoccupy strategic planners. The aged politburo will not embrace radical new policies, but no potential successor to Mr Brezhnev can now challenge the foreign policy line.

Finally, Moscow has been hoping to influence Washington by proxy, by dialogue with and pressure on Western Europe. This has proved less easy since the election of President Mitterrand in France, the threat from the right to Herr Helmut Schmidt's coalition in West Germany and, of course, the imposition of martial law in Poland. Europe has moved closer to the Reagan view than Moscow anticipated.

But there is one card left in forcing better terms from Washington; the China card. The Chinese have let Western diplomats here know they see little prospect for better relations with the Soviet Union. But the Russians sent a senior China expert to Peking in January and recently received a Chinese economic delegation who are said to have been more senior than they appeared.

Moscow probaly knows that China is trying to "play the Moscow card" in its quarrel with Washington over Taiwan. But a rapprochment, if only temporary and tactical, between the two communist giants would realign the relationships between the three countries; something the Russians in their embattled sense of isolation are eager now to do.

Fashion profile by Suzy Menkes

The choice for a lady whose word is law

How should a woman dress for the office and for home? Valerie Aggett, runner-up to The Times Businesswoman of the Year, explains how it can be done.

"People say that the principal of a college should not wear split skirts, but to me a small split on a tailored suit is a sign of femininity", says Valerie Aggett. "I think that too many ladies in the law dress to look like men in the belief that the less feminine they look, the better they will get on".

Strong words from a woman whose three inch high heels have walked over most of the opposition since she took over a small law school five years ago.

By the time Valerie Aggett reached the finals of The Times Business Woman of the Year competition last autumn, the turnover of Holborn Law Tutors Limited had risen tenfold to £700,000. The college had expanded to a new site in south London and she had married its owner. ("He wanted to make sure that the competition didn't get me".)

With her tumbling Titian hair, model girl's figure and bold dress sense, Valerie Aggett looks a most unlikely candidate for the ruthless business woman, at least in this country. She has an American-style philosophy to getting on and believes that looking good is part of any success story. Her work takes her constantly overseas, especially to Malaysia and Singapore, where she meets potential students, their parents and sponsors. Her wardrobe must, therefore, be planned with the efficiency of the rest of her operations.

"Initially, I was rather concerned about going over-

A liking for light colours

seas", she admits. "Certainly going to an Arab country is very difficult for a female. I would never go there in a plunging neckline and a split skirt. But Malaysia and Singapore are much more broadminded. What they really care about is whether you can do your job. No matter how good you look, you are judged by the results. But when I am overseas I think that I get a better reception if I look nice than I would if I went with grey hair in a bun, spectacles and a twinset."

That prissy image coulo not be a greater contrast to the arrival of Valerie Aggett at the studio, in a slinky cream suit, covered with a cuddly fur jacket.

"I've got to enjoy wearing clothes, that is the most important thing", she says. "I like suits because they are sensible, but versatile. I always wear jackets. I would never wear a dress on its own for a business meeting. When I am going overseas, my clothes have to survive the journey. A pleated skirt is a disaster because I have never found a hotel that can press it properly.

"I like light colours, because I think they are more fun and can be dressed up easily for evening. My shopping is erratic as I never have any time. But when I am leaving on a trip I go on a mad shopping binge, which usually produces a series of beige and white suits with a selection of camisoles and tops to slip underneath".

In practical terms, those shopping trips mean a trip down to Knightsbridge, where Valerie Aggett looks round the fashion floors of Harvey Nichols. ("It's the cut of a suit I care about. It has to feel smart".) She also buys clothes, and especially shoes from Charles Jourdan.

"I'm fanatical about having shoes and handbags that match. I find gold sandals very useful when I travel. But the pavements in Malaysia leave a lot to be desired, and my sandals barely survive one trip by the time I have fallen down the monsoon drains!"

Valerie Aggett is lighthearted about her appearance but deeply serious about her teaching work.

A series of gold bikinis

which she undertook out of frustration with her career as a solicitor and a certainty that the law could be better taught.

"The law is still very much a man's world", she says. "There are very few lady partners in major firms left in the City. They stick their statutory ladies away in commercial conveyancing where they don't actually meet any clients".

It is hard to imagine a traditionally stuffy profession taking kindly to Valerie Aggett's bubbling and extrovert personality, although she claims that "there is a great deal of the actor in every lawyer. You see it more with barristers, but with the solicitors it is just hidden deeper".

Valerie Aggett's escape route from work is to take to the water — in the boat that she and her husband keep at Poole harbour. Clothes for the boat are a positive source of fun.

"I don't like the standard boating image of anorak and jeans and not worrying about your hair". (She washes her red-gold mane of curls every single day.) "I always look for fun clothes for the boat. I bought a fuchsia Dior anorak and for sunny days I have a series of gold bikinis. But I no longer wear accessories on the boat, because as soon as I put my head down, I lose combs and bangles overboard. There is a positive treasure trove at the bottom of the harbour".

Valerie Aggett's face must contribute to her fortune, and she certainly has a knack of combining work and glamour. The "statutory ten minutes" she spends every morning doing her make-up provides her with a useful opportunity to consult her husband about the business.

"We tend to hold most of our business meetings in the bathroom. I sit there with my paints and he shaves. Some of our most important decisions are made between the lipstick and the mascara".

● *Suzy Menkes will report from the Paris collections on Friday.*









WORKING UNIFORM

Right: Valerie Aggett wears a white linen fitted jacket and matching split skirt, with a stripey silk camisole and tasselled belt, all from Harvey Nichols, Knightsbridge, SW1.

BOATING OUTFIT

Left: regatta striped blazer, cap-sleeved T-shirt, and pleated-front shorts, all from Charles Jourdan, 39-43 Brompton Road, London, SW3.

DAY INTO EVENING

Far left: creamy slub silk culotte skirt and matching suede trimmed jacket, leather bag, all from Charles Jourdan, 39-43 Brompton Road, SW3.

Photographs by TONY BOASE
Make-up by Teresa Fairminer at Image
Hair by Debbie at Daniel Galvin

Galleries

Dichotomy and deception in the Indian vision

In the Image of Man

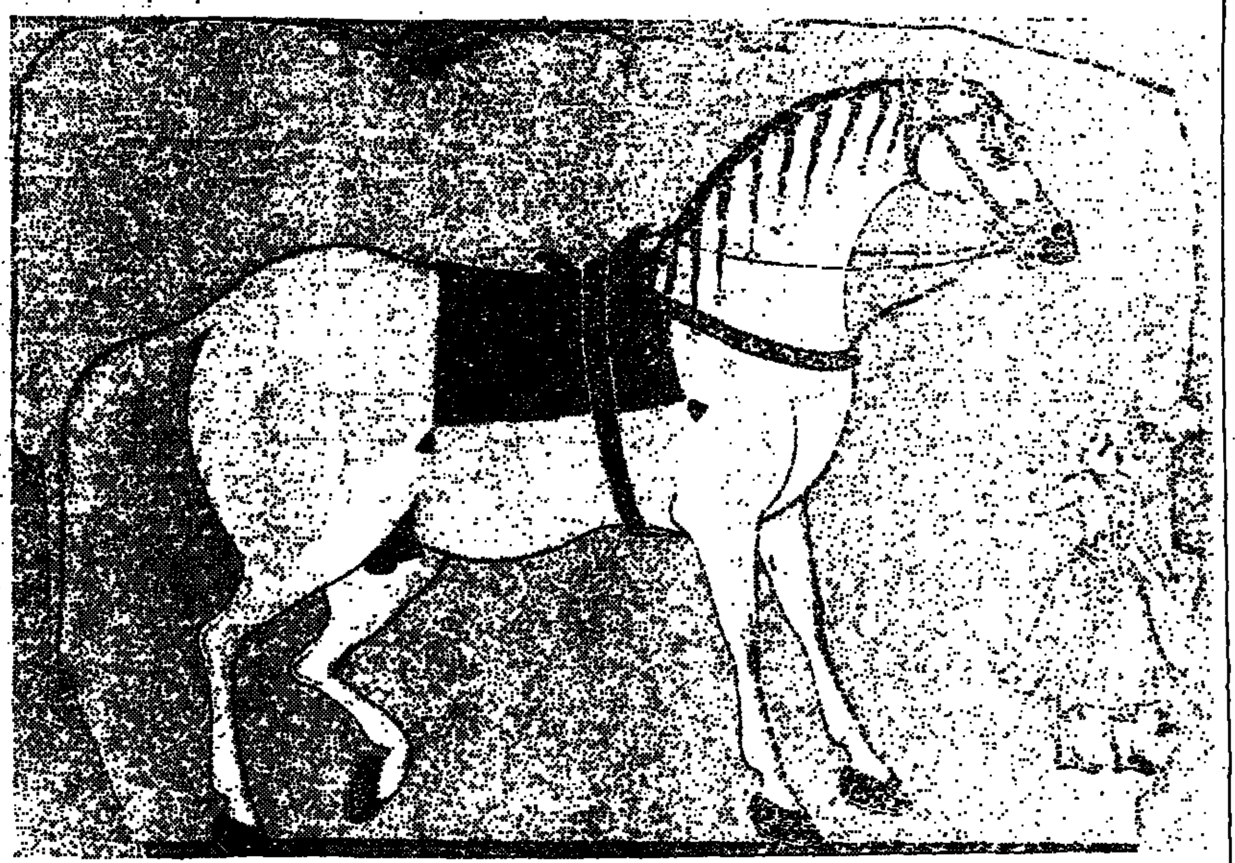
Hayward

Most of us, no doubt, start with two fundamental, disparate images of Indian art. One is of the Taj Mahal, pure, elegant, pristine white. The other is of some juggernaut covered with thousands of grotesque figures of minor deities, heavy-breasted women, holy men and demons and indefinables, set in a lot of highly ornate architecture and painted, as like as not, in the most lurid shades imaginable. If we examine this simple dichotomy further, we probably conclude that the first image represents the Islamic strain in Indian life and the second the Hindu. But can it be so simple? Can anything connected with India, that land of contradictions, be so simple?

The enormous Arts Council show *In the Image of Man*, which kicks off the art side of the Festival of India with a run at the Hayward Gallery until June 13, certainly does not offer any *easy capsulated solutions*. Its stated subject is "The Indian perception of the Universe through 2,000 years of painting and sculpture", which at once raises more questions by seeming to imply that there is such a thing as *the* Indian way of perceiving the universe. And looking round the show we immediately become aware of many more traditions than our simple Hindu/Moslem division: a very important and prominent *Buddhist tradition, for instance*, as well as the Jain and those of various sects and splinter groups within the main families of religion. Evidently, too, religion and culture do not necessarily walk hand in hand: you often find side by side a work of the utmost sophistication and refinement and one which is in all senses primitive, and yet they may well both come from the same religious tradition, and the first may predate the second by a thousand years, all depending on whereabouts in India they come from and what stratum of society.

The show, though looking good in a Hayward yet again unrecognizably transformed (after the show devoted to Lutyens, the laureate of Imperial India), is arranged in a fashion which creates as much confusion as it clears up: not, on the whole, chronologically or geographically, but mainly by theme. *This means* that, if the subject-matter is largely concerned with plants and animals, it comes in the first section, whatever its origin in time or place. Eventually we get on to the various deities of the Hindu pantheon and what they represent, by way of a section called "Temple and Mosque" which seems aimed at making different traditions look much the same rather than defining just where the differences lie. So finally, on a first visit at least, most people are likely to give up trying to make conceptual sense of it, and just enjoy (or not, as the case may be) the individual exhibits piece by piece.

On that level there is very little cause for complaint. Right at the start of the show there is an absolute *knockout*: a *low-relief* carving of the Ashoka tree from the second century AD which is of such directness and beauty I would *defy anyone not to* be surprised by joy. And, if you look closely, you will find that this is only the back of a much more elaborate carving (one can glimpse a chipped but undoubtedly heavy breast), which does make one wonder *if* the Hindu *tradition* was not much more agreeable in its relaxed moments, when nobody was *really* looking. From there on, it is all rather a ragbag of impressions. The miniatures of court life at the *end of the first section are overwhelming* in their exquisite finish and subtle stylization, and some of the more secular carvings in this same area, such as an intricate yellow sandstone arch of flying female warriors (which of course comes from a temple too), manage to carry off a high degree of ornateness with some elegance.



"Horse and Groom", Rajasthan school, c.1660

The Buddhist figures bring in a new, alien form of grace, and there is one in which the formalized carving of the folds in the robe *challenges comparison with anything* in archaic Greek sculpture. But I suspect I am not the only one to turn off noticeably when we get to the Hindu deities in the upper rooms: one supects that a world ruled over by such as Bhairava, God of Terror, can never have been a very pretty place, even with the softening influence of *Vaihari, a mother-goddess with* an astounding resemblance to Miss Piggy. But at least, at the end of the show, we come back to *illuminations and what quailing* Westerners can more readily recognize as beauty. If you leave with the impression uppermost in your mind of the bold black-and-*white pattern made by the Monkeys and Bears Crossing the Bridge to Lanka* from an early eighteenth-century Central Indian manuscript of the *Ramayana*, so sophisticated yet after all so *simple*, then you are probably in a very good position to start the journey all over again.

John Russell Taylor

Television

Totalitarian drift

As its main subject last night Panorama (BBC 1) tried resolutely to make sense of the charges and counter-charges between Nicaragua and the United States.

The United States sees Nicaragua as being shaped in the model of Cuba, with the aim of exporting Red revolution throughout Latin America — instancing the growth of its military power, the presence of Cubans in the country and, it alleges, the *supply of arms to* the El Salvador guerrillas. The Nicaraguans see the United States as a country that has invaded them before and might invade them again, and excuse their military build-up, which at least seems indisputable, as self-defence.

The CIA estimates the number of Cubans in the country as 6,000. The Nicaraguan Foreign Minister, a priest, put it to the reporter Jeremy Paxman as fewer than 2,000 and the Russian presence as slight.

Panorama spoke to an *opposition leader, Alfonso* Robello, once a supporter of the Sandinistas, who saw in his country unmistakable evidence of a drift to a totalitarian state, a view supported by the editor of *La Prensa*, Pedro Chamorro, whose paper has the distinction of having been against the previous Somoza regime and now finding itself in opposition, after initial support, *to the present one*.

Both Mr Robello and Mr Chamorro have had their houses daubed with paint for their pains. The latter, whose father was assassinated by Somoza gunmen, does not fear the same fate himself, but said that he feared for the future of his paper inside Nicaragua.

Panorama took pains to be even-handed. The military camps cited by the United States they *found to be there* but they also visited the camp in Miami where Latin Americans are being trained to overthrow *regimes* such as the one in Nicaragua. They found the lot of the people much improved and the regime not, "at this point anyway, totalitarian." They found that it might well become so unless the United States changed a policy that was making the *Nicaraguans* increasingly paranoid. The programme was edited by George Carey.

Central's Nature Watch, produced and directed on this occasion by Geoff Raison, took a look at the giant redwoods of California, the largest living things in the world, which at one point faced extinction.

In the last century people *outside could not believe* that such giants existed — they rise to well over 200 feet and weigh 2,000 tons — and many were cut down as specimens. Those who realized their potential — one tree can provide timber for 40 five-room houses — set to hacking them *down for* commercial reasons. They have for 40 years been protected, and the entomologist Ron Stecker and his associate, Tom Harvey, gave Julian Pettifer and us a fascinating survey of the world that exists within each tree.

Dennis Hackett

New York theatre

Broadway's gift of self-dramatizing versatility

To New York ears the sound of large buildings biting the dust usually echoes as cheerfully as the birds in spring. But there is a first time for everything, and last week a tearful crowd gathered on West 45th Street to look their last on the Morosco and Helen Hayes Theatres falling victim to Mayor Koch's big lead ball, and witness a pack of some 170 demonstrators, including Joseph Papp, Colleen Dewhurst and Tammy Grimes, being bundled into police vans from the already-flattened adjoining site of the Bijou Theatre.

Nothing on the New York stage is going to rival that as a heartfelt piece of Broadway self-dramatization, but the rest of Broadway continues to have a go with the long-running *Sugar Babies* and *42nd Street*, and the return of Mr Yankee Doodle himself, George M. Cohan, whose 1904 musical *Little Johnny Jones* opened and closed at the Alvin last week.

The most eye-catching new contender is Tom Eyen and Henry Krieger's *Dreamgirls* (Imperial) which delivers its old salvationist message through the success story of a black singing group, not unrelated to the Supremes, who make it from a Harlem talent contest to the Olympian heights of Las Vegas at the expense of a payola scandal and the career of their lead singer.

Effie may have a voice to raise the dead — as proved by the amazing orchestra-obliterating Jennifer Holliday — but her squat person does not fit the image required by *Vogue* magazine and the elite performance circuit. What, in other words, the show records is the Dreamettes' success in crashing the race barrier; and what it fails to examine is the artistic sacrifice of packaging black music for consumption by rich Whites.

There are moments when the story comes into satiric perspective. "I want to go into movies" breathes the shimmeringly besheathed Sheryl Lee Ralph to an interviewer, "like any other American girl." But, for most of the way, Mr Eyen's book follows the rules of backstage romance complete with Effie's chart-topping reunion with the old gang.

The production is another matter. First, there is Robin Wagner's severe mobile scenery which functions as an unspoken commentator on the action, as where one brightly lit set made up of the word "dreams" reverses into a tawdry prop behind which the glittering artists wage their squalid private feuds. Direction is by Michael Bennett, whose choreography makes wonderful patterns from contrasting the ruthless professionalism of the dream world with the drab mess of life outside. There is a limit, however, to what even a great director can do with a song musical — especially when the songs are not up to much.

The subject of how Blacks *can* remake themselves to achieve power in the white world comes fully into focus in Charles Fuller's *A Soldier's Play*, a piece that states its crusading viewpoint *through the* harsh actualities of the Second World War, and irreproachable stagecraft. The Negro Ensemble has certainly found the right work to celebrate its fifteenth anniversary.

The play concerns an investigation into the murder of a black sergeant at an Army base in Louisiana in 1944. Waters, the victim, is first seen drunkenly roaring "they still hate you" before two shots bring him down; from which point the story develops through flashback cross-examination to eliminate the Ku Klux Klan and white officers from the suspects' list and finally reveal the crime as a grudge killing by a private of Waters's own colour.

The investigation is conducted with rigid correctness by a black captain, faced on one side with overfriendly negro other ranks and on the other by fellow officers who greet him with remarks like "being in charge just doesn't look right on Negroes". One theatrical fascination of the inquiry is the difficult aspects it reveals of the dead man as he emerges through the testimony of separate witnesses as a warm paternalist, a chain-gang tyrant, a politician in uniform and a man *rent* apart by enraged self-loathing. All these masks are superbly projected by the gravel-voiced Adolph Caesar who nevertheless remains the same character through every transformation including the discovery that he, too, was a killer.

His victim was an illiterate Mississippi boy, popular as a singer and football hero, but detested by Waters as a Jim Crow stereotype.

Here history enters the story. The enlisted Blacks had hitherto been denied the rights of combat, and were now about to have the chance of proving themselves in warfare. "I don't expect to see our race cheated out of its share of honour because of fools", says Waters after the boy's death. "One less clown in a black face for the race to be ashamed of." Thus, in their separate ways, the violent old sergeant and the college-educated captain (Charles Brown) are both waging the same campaign.

Inside these main boundaries, the play seethes with other racial cross-currents, each one brought to aggressively comic life in Douglas Turner Ward's production and evoking the same exclamations of laughter and recognition from black and white spectators alike.



"A Soldier's Play": crusading viewpoint, irreproachable stagecraft

A. R. Gurney, a quietly accomplished writer whose work has never cut much ice on the London stage, has pulled off something remarkable in *The Dining Room* (Playwrights Horizons). Its hero is a large Victorian dinner table, supported with matching chairs — indestructible emblems of Wasp America which occupy the stage for two hours while the perishable generations pass through the room with their formal breakfasts, children's tea parties and marital crises.

These occur in no discernible order, and there are times when the table has to bear the indignity of a modern typewriter along with the stately crystal and silver befitting its rank. What does accumulate is a comprehensive collage of Wasp behaviour-patterns from the Edwardian husband who quits the Thanksgiving dinner, to do battle for a relative who has been publicly insulted at the steam bath, to the sight of a high-school boy photographing his aunt's cherished fingerbowls and Waterford glass in order to illustrate an anthropology *project on the eating habits* of vanishing cultures. On learning this, she decides not to offer him a cocktail: it being the author's view that the Wasps will go marching on although they may return to the plough from time to time.

Mr Gurney shares the credits with David Trainer's copiously inventive company who built up the piece in rehearsal and *proclaim it as* theirs in every dizzying switch from parental authority to infant tantrums.

Also from Capitol Playwrights Horizons comes Christopher Durang's venemously funny *Sister Mary Ignatius Explains It All For You*, in which the serenely sadistic Elizabeth Franz, clad in full battle dress of Our Lady of Perpetual Sorrows, steps before her lecture-hall audience to deliver the goods on hell and damnation, supported by a smirking 7-*year-old who is rewarded* with cookies for getting the right answers. She benevolently nails down most human activities as mortal sin and makes it clear that there are still plenty of pre-ecumenical infants slugging it out in purgatory.

She is briefly thrown off her stride when a group of her old pupils invade the platform with a subversive *nativity play followed* by vengeful confessions of abortions, homosexuality and alcoholic wife-beating. However, Sister Mary promptly restores order by diving into her habit and briskly gunning them down, leaving one miserable survivor vainly *raising his hand for* permission to use the toilet. Once a catholic, as they say.

Irving Wardle

Concerts

Nash Ensemble/Friend

Queen Elizabeth Hall

It was apt to link Sir William Walton and Constant Lambert in the Nash Ensemble's programme. Once they were thought to be composers of comparable stature, but Lambert's energies latterly went into conducting and so, quite apart from his early death, his full creative potential was not realized.

A good performance of his Piano Concerto is a salutory *reminder not only of his* potential but also of his achievements in that direction. Sunday night's players — Ian Brown with nine instrumentalists conducted by Lionel Friend — gave the first movement the right sort of alacrity and headlong concentration. One relished Lambert's orchestral inventiveness, a single instance among many being a plangent cello melody accompanied by three clarinets.

In fact, despite virtuoso keyboard writing, much of this work's fascination arises from it really being chamber music. Besides expressive cello playing from Christopher van Kampen, James Watson handled the difficult trumpet contributions with verve. Mr Brown was brilliant *in the rapid latter* part of the central Intermede.

When the concerto was written, in 1931, the combination of elegiac lyricism and jazz influence may have seemed implausible, yet the beauty of the slow finale has grown as the decades have passed. It was dedicated to the then recently dead Peter Warlock, and in that last movement Lambert's grief is *obvious*.

The definitive version of Walton's *Facade* was dedicated to Lambert, who was a memorable reciter of the Edith Sitwell texts. On this occasion the task was shared between Eleanor Bron and Edward Woodward, and the *result was one of the most* satisgying performances I have heard.

Too often *Façade* is dispatched at absurd tempos, making the recitations gibberish and blurring Walton's acute stylistic caricatures. Mr Friend's speeds, on the contrary, allowed Miss Bron and Mr Woodward to point almost every word and *demonstrate* how much humour Dame Edith got into her eccentric verses. Indeed, one received the exhilarating impression that scarcely a single musical or literary point was missed.

Max Harrison

Janina Fialkowska

Queen Elizabeth Hall

The young Canadian Janina Fialkowska is a pianist who thinks with an originality, clarity and strength to which her rigorously disciplined fingers are equally strong, mercurial and tireless servants. Since I last heard her she has also given her imagination more room to breathe, *tempering the often* fierce intensity of her playing with a gentle breeze of whimsicality, moments of the *unexpected* in her meticulously calculated interpretations.

Making the most of the piano's resonances, yet with a harpsichord-like clarity of articulation, she coloured each harmonic corner, weighted each inner voice, of her Bach Partita No.2 with an imaginative precision that made its Sarabande an exquisitely intricate spider's web of line, its Capriccio a hedonistic fantasy.

It was that ability to absorb and project the character of the tiniest unit of sound that made the beginning and ending of her Chopin F sharp minor Polonaise so exciting, even its hardest dance *rhythms live with a springy* resilience, a deftly nuanced dynamism that energized too her tougher, more idiosyncratic Mazurkas. Her rubato is restrained, some may feel too *much* so, yet its seemingly organic fusion with the music's inner pulse brought *fresh inflections of joy and* exuberance to her G minor Ballade.

Hilary Finch

Music in Paris

France beginning to discover the baroque

At the foot of the narrow cobbled Rue Mouffetard, bustling with barrows and brasseries on the edge of Paris's fifth arrondissement, stands the little church of St Médard. Its mongrel gothic architecture and warm acoustic make it a welcoming host for "Fêtes Baroques", a series of seven concerts spanning the mid-fifteenth to *mid-eighteenth* centuries taking place throughout this month, organized and sponsored by the record company Harmonia Mundi France.

At the opening concert Les Arts Florissants, a group of nine young solo singers and instrumentalists, directed from the harpsichord by William Christie, were performing two seventeenth-century oratorios by Luigi Rossi, a contemporary of Monteverdi and in his time Rome's leading composer of vocal music and chamber cantatas. Written for and possibly originally semi-staged in the prayer-halls of Cardinal Barberini's palace, their music, too rarely *heard*, has all the emotional insight and dramatic intensity of the sculpture of Bernini, himself a contemporary of Rossi in the service of the Borgheses and Barberinis.

In St Médard, Rossi's *deeply affecting* settings for shifting combinations of voices and instruments of the sensuous, passionately meditative counter-reformation texts of *Un peccator pentito* and *O Cecita* were realized by Les Arts Florissants in a *more compelling*, vitally explorative, unselfconscious performance than anything I had heard in England for some time.

It bore witness to a corresponding intensity of supporting scholarship and rehearsal. *The forced sound*, shallow respiration and high placing of the voice, for instance, the acute tasting of word and idea, are details which William Christie insists must distinguish the performance of this music from that of the French baroque or even of Monteverdi. The deep fascination which this softly spoken, thoroughly Europeanized New Yorker has had with the voice itself, ever since his days at Yale as a pupil of Ralph *Kirkpatrick*, led him in 1979 to gather together some of his students (he teaches at the Paris and *Lyon conservatoires*) in a group to experiment with baroque vocal technique. He called it Les Arts Florissants after Marc-Antoine Charpentier's little opera for young singers and it is now, socially and musically, a strongly unified group of equally strong individual characters and voices.

Their work, together with *the steady* and consistently lively contribution of Harmonia Mundi France to the baroque recorded catalogue *and now to* live performance in organizing what is virtually a miniature baroque festival in the heart of Paris, is *playing* an important part in the comparatively late-flowering renaissance of baroque music in France. *Despite* the work of musicians like Jean-Claude Malgloire, whose daughter plays in Les Arts Florissants, the level of debate in the press about questions of authenticity still has, to the English reader, a surprising flavour of déja vu. As *Le Monde* and *Le Figaro* despairingly slate Paris's latest production of Monteverdi's *Orfeo* at the Théâtre National de Chaillot, and hero-worship English scholars and performing groups, Anne Rey, in this month's *Le Monde de la Musique*, admits that France is still "à la recherche d'un art du chant perdu".

While William Christie continues to teach and pursue his own career as *harpsichordist*, and while his singers and players give half their time to their own solo careers, they rehearse five hours a week and are constantly researching and transcribing new works to add to their repertoire. Christie is particularly excited at the moment by the quantity of unharvested manuscripts of Charpentier lying in the Vatican and in a Jesuit College at Chantilly. It just needs somebody with enough time....

And then there is Rameau ("perhaps the music I love best in the world") whose tercentenary falls next year and whose opera *Anacréon* will soon be released by Harmonia Mundi. The BBC are as eager to get hold of it for studio performance as Harmonia Mundi are to stage a similar series of concerts in England before too long.

Hilary Finch

Opera

Egk's Bavarian birthday present

Peer Gynt

National Theatre, Munich

Werner Egk, one of Bavaria's respected senior composers, was 80 last year. The Bavarian State Opera has regularly staged his numerous operas and ballets, and has marked the birthday with a brand-new production of his *Peer Gynt*.

It was an obvious choice. His later operas have been in the Munich repertory quite recently. The first one, *The Magic Fiddle*, perhaps the most famous, was given a new production on German television a few years back and needs no pushing. His best known ballet, *Abraxas*, had a new *production at the* Munich National Theatre only three years ago. But *Peer Gynt*, first performed at the Berlin State Opera unter den Linden in 1938, came to life at an awkward period for a young, go-ahead German *composer*. *Not only* Egk's music, but its literary source in Ibsen's play, fell foul of the Nazis, whose mouthpieces *invoked* the accursed influences of Brecht, Weill, Schoenberg and Stravinsky. *Peer Gynt* was never actually *interdicted*, but friendly opera critics were warned oft, and Egk's own Bavarian opera company in Munich did not dare show it until 1952.

One of the extra pleasures of attending the new Munich production is to read, in the programme book, the composer's reminiscences of the work's stormy early history, written with uproarious frankness and literary verve. The Bavarian Opera's programme books for new productions are nowadays a model of their kind, real books (108 pages for *Peer Gynt*) full of original information, lots of photographs and pictures, sometimes even an historic gramophone record, and all — thanks to subsidy — for about one English pound.

With so much twentieth-century history behind it, Egk's *Peer Gynt* was a clear candidate for a new-look revival in Munich. The house musical director, Wolfgang *Sawallisch, is in charge*, and powerfully too; the cast is strong, and include some senior soloists, such as Astrid Varnay, Ferry Gruber, Karl Christian Kohn, Keith Engen and David Thaw, who now bring valuable expertise *to character roles, if you can* survive a wobble now and then.

Egk made his own operatic *précis of Ibsen's* huge dramatic saga. Most of us will regret the omission of favourite scenes, and for me it is a stiff, unimaginative selection from Ibsen's exotic gallimaufry of riveting episodes; the father and daughter Troll, for instance, are given more importance than they deserve. Egk turned Ibsen's theatrical *macrocosm* into a microcosm by his choice of scenes, and although Wilfried Werz's spacious, quite flamboyant settings and Kurt Horres's forthright, well controlled staging compel attention, it is not the Shakespearian sort of pilgrim's progress which Ibsen gave us.

Egk, still writing music, might now want to include more of Ibsen's scenes, linking them with orchestral interludes à la *Wozzeck*. In 1938 a young composer respected self-imposed reins, and kept his music spare. The first scenes are restrained indeed, near to Hindemith's neo-classicism, less bold even. Later the vocal music finds a more melodious style, and does approach, rather gingerly, the harmonic and tuneful manner of the more serious Weill. In sociable scenes we may hear a *little* of Carl Orff's *Der Mond* or *Die Kluge*, two frivolous fairy-story operas of those days, *but again kept at heel*.

Now and then the hedonism of Lebar *peeps from* Egk's amorous or luxurious music, and for the final scene, where Solveig welcomes Peer home to her side, the sensuous warmth of Korngold's *Die tote Stadt* is frankly, and creatively, adopted.

No, it is not an original sort of music; for much of the time it sounds attractive, but to modern ears rather derivative. Egk's treatment of *Peer Gynt* might tell effectively on stage, I think, if you did not know Ibsen's original. In Munich it is a lavish show which moves resourcefully, and with some theatrical special effects of a grandiose nature — the revolving stage in the hall of the mountain king, Peer on the gangway of his gold-laden ship above a convalescent home, the panoptikon, a good leg-show and more.

The Munich cast is bravely led by Hermann Becht's unsteady but thoroughly heroic Peer Gynt, hampered though he is by a tattered dressing-gown so that one wonders how any girl could fancy him. Lilian Sukis is the enchanting Solveig, even as an old woman in the last scene (her finest music). Egk has been given a handsome birthday present by the Bavarian State Opera.

William Mann

Tories, beware the flannelette brigade

By Chris Patten

The SDP has been attacked by some Conservative leaders as the Mark 2 Labour Party. The trouble is that for many Conservative voters it clearly looks more like the Mark 1 Conservative Party.

As by-election victories go, Hillhead may not have been *grand cru classé*; but at the very least it was *cru bourgeois supérieur*, a remarkable triumph of derring-do over political calculation. A four-party fight is not ideal ground for a politician standing for a fledgling third party. Mr Jenkins, showing the same sort of reckless courage for which Mrs Thatcher is justly celebrated, won by a couple of lengths. We should raise our hats to another example of conviction politics.

Hillhead will restore a greater sense of realism to Westminster. Before and after the Budget, parliamentary life seemed more cocooned from the rest of the world than normal. The Labour Party kidded us that the Bishop's Stortford conference had assumed the political proportions of VE Day. For some Conservatives, the economy was poised on the brink of miraculous recovery; it was not too absurd apparently to contemplate a snap election, as tides turned and ends of tunnels blazed with fairy lights. Meanwhile, the electors of Glasgow bided their time.

Little has happened that should now surprise us: little that should throw us into panic about the future or into anxious reappraisal of principles and party. The punter will continue to lay bets against a single party emerging from the next election with an overall majority. The sensible Tory will remain just that, declining offers to follow the scarcely discernible footprints of Mr Brocklebank-Fowler across the floor of the House.

The Tory will nevertheless view the SDP differently from the Labour Party. Politics is all "in" or "out"; if one has to be out, better Mr Jenkins in than Mr Foot or Mr Benn. It is plain silly to pretend that the SDP leaders are closet Marxists, more sensible to observe that the period on which their personalities, style and policies dominated British politics was not exactly all glittering prizes and dazzling success.

Nor should we make too much of the inexperience and present invisibility of many of those who would be deposited in offices up and down Whitehall by an SDP/Liberal Alliance bandwagon. There is nothing more innately absurd about the prospect of Cyril Smith with a red box than of the ministerial promotion of several members of Mr Foot's present front bench.

Nevertheless, the identity of some of those now presumably destined for high office in an Alliance government, mainly because of their difficulties with *local Labour parties, must give Mr* Jenkins as well as the rest of us pause for a little gentle rumination about the role of chance in this rum old world.

The charge that the SDP has no policies may be a more substantial one for Tories to level. Yet by the next election, I suspect the new party will be chock-a-block with policies on everything — laminated on all sides, ideal for the average family, good mileage to the gallon, adjustable rear-view mirror, reclining front seats and stereophonic speakers in all four doors. Whether it will have a coherent approach or philosophy or way of looking at the world is another matter.

Dr Owen and Mrs Williams tell us that their party is about egalitarianism and decentralization. Others would like the party to be about winning votes by causing the least possible offence to the largest possible number of people. A few would like to out-do Francis Pym in their honesty about the gravity of Britain's problems and the sacrifices and dislocation involved in overcoming them.

But I suspect these brave hearts will be out-argued by those for whom moderation is synonymous with soft options, those who believe that the party's main appeal should he smug, snug flannelette pragmatism.

We have already seen the SDP's feeble indecisiveness over how to react to Mr Tebbit's modest little Bill on industrial relations. It is *almost certainly impossible* to pursue a successful, balanced economic policy, which reduces unemployment but does not unleash inflation, without fundamental change in our system of monopoly pay bargaining. That involves curtailing destructive trade union power.

The SDP leaders will walk around this nettle, observing it from all sides; they will take books out of the London Library to read all there is to read about its botanical properties; the last thing they will do is actually to grasp it and tear it out of the ground.

This is an important reason, though not the main one, why a Tory should stay where he is rather than join up under Mr Jenkins's colours. The fact is that Mr Jenkins and his colleagues are not Tories. This is more than a quibble.

It is argued that Tories who agree with some of Mr Jenkins's views about economic policy and constitutional reform should forget what he calls himself and throw in their lot with him. Their reservations are compared to the arguments of the medieval schoolmen about nominalism and realism. What's in a name? Look at the essence.

However, the essence is hardly Tory. The Tory tradition of prudence, balance, continuity, stability, consent, hostility to systems or dread of enthusiasm may not dominate the thinking or actions of the present government, but nor does it dominate those of the Alliance.

The Gang of Four are not the lineal descendants of Burke, Disraeli, Baldwin and Churchill. They cut their political teeth attacking the years and the policies of Butler and Macmillan. They are not the custodians of what is still the most distinguished and honourable tradition in British politics.

And there is a further reason why moderate Tories will stay where they are. What Britain needs is for the SDP to replace the Labour Party as the main party of the left. If it replaces the Conservative Party on the centre-right, we shall still face the grisly prospect of an extremist Labour Party working outside Parliament to destroy a moderate government and to win power for itself as the sole remaining alternative.

So Tories should stick to their party and stick to their guns. We should do all we can by voice and by vote to see that in the run-up to the next election the Conservative Party looks more capable than the SDP of offering once again what Mr Jenkins, after his Hillhead triumph, called the policies of sense, moderation and hope.

Beyond that, we must fight to ensure that the government — I hope the Conservative government — that is elected in two years' time governs in that spirit from the very start of its life. It will have a better chance of success if it does.

The author is Conservative MP for Bath.

A people in the shadow of extinction

So many people are suffering in Iran at present from the bloodthirsty practices of the Khomeini regime that it seems almost invidious to single out any one group as the special object of international concern. But there is one group of Iranians whose situation justifies this because they do not have any rights, even in theory, under the constitution of the Islamic republic.

That group is the followers of the Baha'i religion. In Iran today a person exists, legally, only as a member of a religious community. One may be Muslim, Christian, Jewish or Zoroastrian. One may not, legally, be Baha'i. Although Baha'is are enjoined by their faith to eschew all political involvement, The Iranian authorities persist in regarding them as a "political faction", not a religion. Although no wholesale campaign of genocide has yet been undertaken against them, they have no redress when, as frequently happens, a group of zealots attacks them, destroying their property and even murdering them. They are a community living under suspended sentence of death.

All credit, therefore, to the Minority Rights Group for publishing, and to Roger Cooper for writing, a report on *The Baha'is of Iran* which is both timely and objective, and which explains — but does not excuse — the hostility that Baha'is have to contend with, not only from the present regime but from very large numbers of their *Muslim compatriots*.

Baha'ism developed in the mid-nineteenth century out of Babism, a Messianic religious movement with strong revolutionary overtones. In 1844 a young Shirazi merchant, Sayyid Ali Muhammad, proclaimed himself the *Bab* or gate, through which Shi'ite Muslims could communicate with their Hidden Imam. He said the reappearance of the Imam (equivalent to the Second Coming) was imminent, and that it was his mission to prepare men for this. Later he claimed to be the Imam himself, bringing a new dispensation that superseded the law and teachings of the Koran.

The Babis were trying, in effect, to overturn both the prevailing religious orthodoxy and the social order, and they were quite prepared to use violence even if they themselves saw this as *defensive. Inevitably*, the authorities reacted with repression. The *Bab* was arrested, tried and convicted for heresy and finally executed by firing squad in 1850. Over a four-year period at least 3,000 Babis were put to death and the surviving adherents were forced into clandestinity.

Baha'ism, founded by Mirza Husain Ali, who called himself Baha'ullah (the Glory of God), was in essence an attempt to save Babism from extinction by divorcing it from politics. Baha'ullah, who came to be regarded by the majority of Babis as the Universal Manifestation of God whom the Bab had foretold, saw that the path of armed revolution was suicidal, and saved his followers from it by developing a quietist interpretation of the faith.

Baha'ullah was exiled from Iran in 1853 and eventually settled at Acre in Palestine, then part of the Ottoman empire. This has had the entirely fortuitous but unfortunate effect of situating the centre of Baha'ism as a worldwide religion within the frontiers of the present-day state of Israel, thus enabling the modern enemies of the Baha'is to accuse them of sending funds to Israel and acting as agents of Zionism.

Baha'ism today is, indeed, a world religion, generally thought to have more than three million adherents. Of these about one million live in India, and about 100,000 in Malaysia. But there are also "large numbers of Canadian Indians, rural Blacks in the southern United States, as well as educated young people in both countries . . . and over 100,000 Vietnamese", while *estimates for Iran* vary between 150,000 and 300,000.

The Baha'i faith forbids its adherents to belong to political parties or secret societies, and enjoins them to respect the legal authority of the state where they live. It would be misleading, however, to say that Baha'is accept a total separation of religion and politics. In theory, at least, their religion (like most religions in the early stages of their history) embraces the social as well as *spiritual life* of their community, and they see their system of administration as a prototype of an ideal world government, which will gradually come into being through peaceful means.

The official Iranian attitude to the Baha'is was summed up by Ayatollah Khomeini in an interview given shortly before his return to Iran in 1979: "They are a political faction; they are harmful; they will not be accepted." Orthodox Islam, whether Shi'ite or Sunni, has difficulty in accepting as genuine any religion founded after Islam itself, since it is a cardinal point of Islam that *Muhammad was the last*, the "Seal", of the Prophets, and that the Koran, which was revealed to him, is the final and unalterable message of God to mankind.

Those who follow Muhammad's precursors, such as Zoroaster, *Moses* and Jesus Christ, can be accepted as honest seekers after truth who have got stuck on the road. But those who follow a self-styled successor to Muhammad, such as Baha'ullah, are seen as wilful perverters of the truth, guilty of collective apostasy — a crime punishable, in traditional Islamic jurisprudence, by death.

But the widespread hostility to the Baha'is in Iran is not founded only on Islamic *orthodoxy*. There is also the fact that the Baha'is, true to their principles, refused to involve themselves in any of *the great popular movements* of the last hundred years, *while individually* and as a community they often prospered under unpopular governments.

Thus prejudice against the Baha'is can be found among the secular left as well as among Khomeini's supporters, and the Iranian politicians now in exile are mostly reluctant to admit that the Baha'is today are any worse off than the rest of the Iranian population. Yet, partly under the pressure of Western public opinion, the opposition movements are beginning to show more awareness of the issue.

It was the "Free Voice of Iran" — a radio station based in Baghdad and associated *with the monarchist General* Oveyssi — which reported last month that ration coupons for members of the Baha'i sect in Iran have been cancelled.

The West has little or no leverage over the Khomeini regime, but Khomeini's ideologically diverse opponents are anxious for the support of Western public opinion. One way in which they could improve their chances of getting it would be to give specific guarantees about the human, civil and political rights of Baha'is in the post-Khomeini era.

Edward Mortimer

Who will pay for the chariots to race again?

by David Hewson

At three o'clock this morning, London time, the glittering prizes of Hollywood were handed to their delirious winners.

There seems certain to be a strong British contingent among the celebrants. Oscars rarely come our way these days, but among the nominations last night was *Chariots of Fire*, fighting on seven separate fronts, including that of best film, and *The French Lieutenant's Woman*.

With both titles receiving acclaim at the US box office and from influential critics, the example of a successful foreign film industry is starting to appeal to a Hollywood racked by self-doubts over some of its own highrolling flops.

What the flood of Moët & Chandon in Beverley Hills may obscure is that the present resurgence of the British cinema business is, at the moment, purely an artistic one. In commercial terms, our film-makers are facing tortuous difficulties in raising capital, even when their careers are blessed by past financial and critical success.

For the past six months, one group has been touting for support to film a Frank Capra-style comedy on a modest budget of around £3m set in the Scottish Western Isles.The producer is David Puttnam, who was behind *Chariots of Fire*, the lead actor Burt Lancaster, and the writer Bill Forsyth, who scripted and directed *Gregory's Girl*.

Two weeks ago, at the British Academy of Film and Television Arts awards, the domestic equivalent of the Oscar ceremony, Puttnam picked up the prize for best film with *Chariots*, Forsyth the best script category for *Gregory's Girl*, and Lancaster the best actor's award for his part in Louis Malle's *Atlantic City*.

The results came as no surprise, since all three films had been well received. What is surprising is that when Puttnam tried to find backers for their joint project, a feature which was low-priced and with transatlantic appeal, he was turned down by a number of major financiers, including Rank and EMI. Clearly, if that sort of response is handed out to established film-makers, with successful track records, lesser mortals stand little chance of raising capital.

Puttnam's project, to be called *The Local Hero*, will go ahead. The first day of shooting is scheduled for April 26. But its backing has depended on 100 per cent support from Goldcrest Films, the Pearson Longman subsidiary set up last year in anticipation of the coming cable and satellite boom.

The City watched with interest when Pearson Longman, owners of the *Financial Times* and the Westminster Press provincial newspaper group, stepped into the normally flamboyant world of film financing. James Lee, Pearson Longman's chief executive, and the man principally behind the move, forecast that Goldcrest would *raise £12m from outside* interests to bring the company's future production pool to just under £30m.

Mr Lee now confirms the suspicions of many in the film industry that Goldcrest is finding the going much harder than expected. After knocking on most of the important doors in the City, the company has collected £6m of its £12m target. This failure comes in spite of the considerable financial and artistic talent Goldcrest has at its disposal.

Mr Lee concedes that he is disappointed by the City's response, but believes that his approach will be proved right. "The plans we started with aren't changed in any way. If anything I'm more bullish than I was before. The one black spot is that we are trying to build up a pool of money under Goldcrest's management of just under £30m and we're still a long way short of that."

What Goldcrest and the industry knows full well is that Mr Lee's potentially far-sighted plans are now likely to stand or fall on one film, Sir Richard Attenborough's life of Gandhi, made by the company in partnership with Indian interests for £8½m and due for release on December 1. *Gandhi* is long, relatively expensive, and scheduled for a huge international launch. If it flops, Golcrest's plans to establish itself as the major force in British film-making, producing around four films a year and a wide variety of television material, will lose momentum.

But why is British film finance so hard to come by? The answer seems to lie in the perception of what the industry is like, rather than the reality. One event above all has clouded the horizon for British film-makers — the debacle at Lord Grade's Associated Communications Corporation.

The Grade empire's near-fatal difficulties through profligate and ill-advised cinema ventures have been widely publicized, and City gossip insists that further dismal revelations about film losses are to come. The disaster has tainted film finance in the eyes of many investors who simply see it is as little more than an unattractive gamble.

The trouble with this viewpoint, from the film-makers' side, is that it is historical when investors should be far-sighted. It does not take into account the vast broadening of the market for film which is now occuring throughout America with cable networks and already spreading to other parts of the world. Britain's own cable television plans speak of 30 channels available to each home. The question facing programme makers is, who will supply the material?

Most of Goldcrest's offers, for instance, were for films which were pre-sold to American cable networks such as Home Box Office so that a substantial part of the production costs were guaranteed. This practice is in marked contrast to the historical gamble of the cinema which hinged directly on the number of people willing to pay to see a particular film.

These points are not so much lost on potential investors as outweighed by a continuing suspicion that the entertainment industry is, *per se*, simply fickle.

It is a view compounded by the casual attitude meted out to the industry by government. Whatever the devotion of Mr Iain Sproat, the Parliamentary Under-Secretary at the Department of Trade responsible for film, it must be tempered by his attention to other responsibilities such as civil aviation, shipping, tourism, service trade industries and *statistical matters*.

At the same time, cable, satellite and television affairs, which are inextricably linked with the financial fortunes of the film-makers, are dealt with elsewhere, at the Home Office.

On Friday Sir Harold Wilson's committee on the film industry will deliver its latest report — its fifth — and will doubtless repeat its call for the formation of a British Film Authority to advise the Government on film policy and take on some supervisory financial role superseding the present, much criticized Eady Levy system.

The report is also likely to demand sweeping changes in the distribution system for British films, which now gives an advantage to the larger fish in an increasingly complex sea. But unfortunately the committee's findings have largely proved to be grist for the official reports mill. None of its key recommendations over the past five years has been transformed into legislative action, and there is no sign that things will be any different this time.

Mr Lee says: "The political message we have been trying to put across is that films may be a small industry but they happen to be one in which Britain has a real *competitive advantage*. We can make films of great quality at lower cost, faster."

What is now becoming clear is that the ability to make good, popular films which receive international acclaim is only one part of the story. The struggle to create a financial climate which encourages the making of such films is equally vital, and it is a fight which may be lost in Britain. On reflection, our doughty film-makers may find that the most sobering thought amid their Californian revels is a sense of wonder that they ever got there in the first place.



Chariots of Fire, in the running for seven Oscars; but what future for the British film industry?

A Golden hand for London's Wiener Library

The Wiener Library, the unique London collection of contemporary ephemera and documents about Nazism and anti-semitism, has found a propitious supporter for its £1m appeal fund, launched by James Callaghan.

On Friday a double-page advertisement for the appeal will appear in the *Jewish Chronicle*, paid for by the Golden Charitable Trust. The name refers not to the trust's endowments, though those are generous, but to its founder, Lewis Golden, who is also treasurer and considerable benefactor to the London Library. Golden is an ex-paratroop officer, adjutant of the divisional signals at Arnhem, who made his fortune as an accountant. The Wiener Library, whose director is Professor Walter Laqueur, the historian, author of *The Terrible Secret* and consultant and adviser to successive American administrations, has been in financial difficulties since a previous chairman, Leonard Montefiore, died in 1963 without securing his estate from death duties.

Blood money

Some readers relish gory details, I fear. Since my note about the tempting buffet provided for those who give blood in France, I have been *flooded with blood* donors' contributions. Not a pretty picture.

In Spain, impoverished British students have discovered, blood can be sold for cash. The precise payment depends on the blood group. In India it is possible to earn remission on prison sentences in exchange for blood. According to some correspondents the going rate is a month per pint.

Now, I learn, the London Dungeon will shortly be advertising for blood to make its ghastly exhibits more realistic — and offering £25 a pint. What have I started?

Two's a company

These are thrifty times in the theatre. The National Theatre of Brent, having re-enacted the Zulu Wars and the Charge of the Light Brigade with a cast of two, added just one more when called on to represent the entire population of the Indian sub-continent in *The Black Hole of Calcutta*.

Now at the same venue, the Drill Hall in Chenies Street, a company called Shared Experience offers Arthur Schnitzler's *La Ronde* with a cast of two. The actors change roles and costumes on stage aided by nine dummies which act as clothes-horses. Whatever happened to Equity?

Left of centre

There is a sinister implication in Roy Jenkins's triumph at Hillhead. If he goes on to become Prime Minister, he will be the first left-hander in the job as far back as PHS research can reach.

It is true that Macmillan shot from the left-shoulder, which suggests that he would naturally have been left-handed, but he writes with his right hand.

Jenkins and Macmillan have one other rather sinister omen in common. Neither became President of the Oxford Union, Macmillan because he was Librarian in Trinity Term 1914, and Jenkins because he was Librarian in Trinity Term 1939.

THE TIMES DIARY



It is a good thing MPs are elected for up to five years' term because it can take them easily that long to get any useful information out of government departments. Clement Freud asked the Minister for Arts for a list of artefacts for which export licences had been granted and for which refused, and was told it was not in the public interest. He asked again, and was told it was a matter for the Department of Trade. He asked the Trade Secretary, and was told the policy of successive governments had been not to disclose such information. He was back again yesterday asking what other information it was policy to withhold. He is still no nearer the information he wanted.

Man's-eye view

The father of British bird photography is being honoured with an exhibition at the National Museum of Wales, of which he is still treasurer at the age of 91. Colonel H. Morrey Salmon took his first photograph — of a lapwing on its nest — in 1909.

Though always an amateur, pursuing his ornithology while heading a family business in Cardiff docks and during a distinguished military career, Salmon pioneered the use of photography for bird censuses. *In 1954 he took a night-time* photograph of dozens of curlews roosting in a peat pool in mid-Wales, first proof of the theory that the birds gathered in pools at night to escape foxes or other predators.

Sinking feeling

The war between the ferry companies on the English Channel is becoming as tedious as having to travel on the boats themselves. The advertisements are replete with apparently contradictory claims and statistics, for some of which there are technical explanations in the fine print.

Sealink claims credit for accepting foreign currencies for on-board purchases, without saying that the exchange rates are often unfavourable. Townsend Thoresen prides itself on offering a restaurant on every sailing, but not, I should hope, on the standard of the food. Townsend Thoresen also stresses that it has been "car ferry company of the year three times in a row" compared with "Sealink — never." It should be added that the title is a trade award in a trade magazine, and need concern the travelling public not at all.

The whole business is making PHS slightly sea-sick.

Ungodly act?

A Guide to the Gods, an omnitheistic anthology by Richard Carlyon, published yesterday, commits what many will consider sacrilege by placing the god of Judaism, Christianity and Islam alongside such esoterica as the Australian deity whose creative organ was so extravagant that he was obliged to wear it round his neck, the Chinese who became a god through inventing the writing brush and the Mayan god of healing, who operated beneath the sign of the red hand.

Carlyon's explanation may turn away some wrath: "Yahweh, with Allah and the Christian God," he writes, "is arguably too intimately exalted to belong in the gaudy company who throng these pages. But God is to be found everywhere."

President Reagan postponed a press conference he was to have held yesterday. He decided that with the shuttle landing and the Oscar ceremonies, there was too much else happening to afford him the attention he requires.

Aerial battle

A curious dispute revolves around Highpoint flats in Highgate, one of the best-known buildings by Berthold Lubetkin, recently awarded the Royal Institute of British Architects' gold medal nearly 30 years after giving up practice.

Highpoint was bought by its residents in 1979, but the vendor retained a lease on the roof where Pye Telecommunications had erected four commercial aerials. Pye now wants to replace *those with two new ones with* antennae, and three rooftop cabins for its employees.

Haringey council has twice refused the application on the ground that the new structures would seriously detract from the appearance of a building regarded as an important step in the development of the Modern Movement. Fifty residents have written to Michael Heseltine asking him to reject Pye's appeal against the council's refusal.

Liquid assets

Magdalen College, Oxford, more than usually conscious of the need for economies after completing £90,000 worth of restoration work on its famous tower, is considering a significant reduction of stocks in its wine cellars.

The college aims for a five-figure improvement in its bank balance by reducing its stocks of everything from table salt to washing-up liquid, including wine.

The future of the cellar, lovingly built up by the former President James Griffiths, is now being considered by the wine committee, and the college has already discreetly sold much of its port because the present President, Keith Griffin, says drinking habits have changed in favour of clarets. That may not stop them selling clarets next.

Tasty stories

Dave Wetzel, the chairman of the GLC transport committee, is reported to eat apple crumble with Daddies sauce. A story told of Harold Evans, until recently editor of *The Times*, alleges that he once in a restaurant distractedly ordered a brussels sprout omelette.

Do readers know of other such original contributions to the British culinary repertoire? I do not want to hear about horrors of the single red hair in a soup-plate of Brylcreem genre. Let's keep it edible, if not appetizing.

Foyled again

Some of the signatures on a round-robin in support of 16 staff dismissed by Foyle's bookshop are going to be hard for Christina Foyle to stomach. Among almost 70 names are many of those who have been guests of honour at her Foyles' literary luncheons in the past.

They include J B Priestley, Michael Foot, A J Ayer, Jennie Lee, Melvyn Bragg, Margaret Drabble and Julian Symons.

The Earl of Gosford created a little-noticed piece of parliamentary history last Thursday when he was voted into silence by his peers. There is no trace that a motion that a Lord be no longer heard has been voted upon since 1858. The last time such a motion was agreed without division was in 1960 when the late Lord Stansgate provoked Lord Hailsham to it. Gosford lost the division by a crushing 147 to 15.

PHS

THE TIMES
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ONE NATION

No single part of the Scarman report, not even his proposals on policing, had greater potential impact on the future of British society than his brief remarks on positive action to meet the needs of the ethnic minorities and to attempt to remove the disadvantages — in employment, education and housing — that the colour of their skins had *subjected them to*. The call has just been taken up by Mr David Lane, Chairman of the Commission for Racial Equality, who said that a stronger race relations Act was needed and that an attack on racial discrimination should become a major role of national policy. In the wings, Equity can also be heard, suggesting that the Arts Council should withdraw subsidies from theatres unless it is convinced that they cater fairly for *multi-racial* audiences by employing black actors and actresses, even presumably in the choice of plays to be performed. Now the Brigade of Guards is also under scrutiny.

In their different ways these spokesmen show that there is no easy answer to these questions. Where is the line to be drawn between what may be regarded as acceptable positive action and unacceptable reverse discrimination? Any steps to help blacks which are seen to entail some discrimination against whites might become unacceptable to the white majority. They might slowly but ultimately provoke a "white backlash". That approach would exclude from consideration for action the introduction of quotas — a percentage of jobs, places on courses, houses, being set aside for blacks; or the selective *lowering of standards* to allow more blacks to qualify for certain positions; or deliberately making available jobs, educational courses, and houses to less qualified blacks at the expense of better qualified white applicants.

There are two other drawbacks *to such a programme*. One is that it could fail because it would not gain the support of the majority white population; that failure would lead to greater policing (Mr Lane's new Act for instance); and more law would only result in a downward spiral to even greater resentfulness among whites. The other is that *such concessions would* not help the black communities because they would enshrine and therefore tend to perpetuate the idea that the whites, albeit reluctantly, had been forced into doing a favour for their inferiors.

On the other hand special programmes to bring the disadvantaged ethnic minorities up to the level required to enable them to compete on an equal and non-discriminatory basis with whites for jobs, educational places or housing are considered more acceptable because they do not seem *on the surface to involve* injustice to whites. Indeed, the Race Relations Act of 1976 enshrines the principle and the legality of discriminatory programmes in favour of the ethnic minorities.

In practice the line is not easy to draw. The reality is that positive action must, however indirectly, be at the expense of the majority. Funds diverted to remedying the position of blacks means that they are not available for *more* general distribution. There is nothing objectionable in that. The tax payer is accustomed to providing for *services for the disadvantaged* of our society, through the social security system and the health service, for example. The principle is the same for the disabled as for the racially disadvantaged. The practical problem is that it is often impossible, when instituting a programme of positive action, to do justice both to the disadvantaged group as well as to individuals belonging to the majority. The general principle of equal treatment and equal justice for all citizens has — temporarily — to give way to the equally important consideration that for the health of society as a whole there must be a loading in favour of a minority racial group. It is important that the favourable discrimination lasts only as long as the disadvantage: positive action *is designed to* bring about a levelling of access, opportunity and treatment, not to confer permanent advantage on one or other racial group.

The question that should be asked is more difficult: what *steps does our society* need to take to bring the disadvantaged ethnic minorities into the mainstream of society, from which many of them have effectively been excluded? If we do not take sufficient positive action to achieve that objective the result will be a further polarization of black and *white*, less mutual understanding and confidence, more racialism, a two-tier society with blacks at the bottom, the perpetuation of injustice, and, not least, the great danger of violence and rioting on a scale far in excess of Brixton and Toxteth. Seen in that context the debate over the ostensible *public acceptability or otherwise* of particular measures, whether called positive action or reverse discrimination, is of little help. They are all technicalities, when it is the symbolism of identity and self-confidence which is at stake.

It is already probably too late to proceed merely by way *of social and economic engineering*. It is not enough, now, to say that we will in future attempt by positive action to remedy the condition in which many members of the racial minorities find themselves. Of course we must do that, and do it generously and with full commitment. Inevitably however, many of the *consequences of whatever* action is started now will only become apparent in a decade or even a generation. *Something more is needed*, now, to convince the disadvantaged races in this country that setting into motion all sorts of remedial measures is not just another way of shelving the real issue. And that issue is not so much whether extra help becomes available to allow blacks to reach certain educational or employment qualifications but whether there is a genuine commitment to recognize that Britain has become a plural, multiracial society.

For if the black community believes — with or without justificaton — that positive action is aimed merely at fitting them into the lower and middle echelons of white society, then it will not work.

If the black community has been made to feel unwanted, to be regarded as outsiders, it is largely the fault — conscious or unconscious, of British institutions. Governments, of both political hues, have signally failed to pay more than lip-service to the multi-racialism of British society (except, negatively, through immigration control). The civil service and local authorities, political parties, trade unions and newspapers, all have a lamentable record of multiracialism. Only when blacks are seen to be in positions of influence, power and prominence in those areas most visible to the public will the black community at large start trusting in the promises that have been made to them. It may be that such an approach will be seen as tokenism. Perhaps so. But what the American experience has shown is that what starts off as tokenism is quickly converted into genuine and equal participation.

A stable society is one that believes in and works through its institutions — educational, commercial, cultural, political. Where are the black faces at the high table? In the Boardroom? On the concert platform? In Parliament? *They must come to this* eminence and come soon. It lies within the Prime Minister's power through Crown appointments, to practise positive discrimination without setting up any of the resentment to be expected from genuinely disadvantaged whites.

These issues are debated *fully in Parliament yet* nobody in the Commons and only two lonely representatives in the Lords can advise the highest court in the land on the basis of first hand experience what it is like to be a coloured Briton. By the next honours list Mrs Thatcher should have added at least a dozen West Indian and Asian leaders to the benches of the House of Lords. They would bring lustre and variety to its counsels; and the nation's institutions elsewhere might be encouraged to follow such a lead. It would not be an act of patronising charity like the Poor Laws, it would be a Christian act of an ex-Imperial power, unlike Imperial Rome itself which no doubt viewed Christ as a non-citizen, from an ethnic minority, and more or less *coloured* as well. It would be not just a Christian act; it would be good politics.

UNWILLINGLY TO RULE IN BANGLADESH

For the better part of a year General Ershad of Bangladesh contemplated but refrained from the coup he conducted last week. Having reluctantly moved, he took a moment over the weekend to congratulate himself on the bloodless transition from elected government to martial law: "Not a single bullet was fired. Nobody raised a voice. Nobody raised a finger. Everybody raised a sigh of relief", he said.

The rupturing of a democratic constitution is anywhere an act of violence. The disconcerting fact that in Bangladesh this act was greeted with silence proves nothing. Bangladesh's constitution was flawed and its democracy was weakened *from bottom* to top by cynicism and self-interest. But anyone who argues that democracy was the wrong form for such a country will have to confront the evidence of the huge, peaceful turnout in last November's elections.

There was some intimidation and vote-rigging, but while the Bangladesh National Party emerged with a suspiciously big 4-1 majority no impartial observer doubted that the results reflected the popular will. Yet the election also sealed the inevitability of a coup, putting in place the ailing and unimpressive President Abdus Sattar who quickly lost what little grip he had on the fractious and greedy BNP. Observing this, General Ershad pressed his long-standing if ill-defined demand for an "Army role" in government.

If he hesitated actually to take over, it was not only because of his often-stated preference for democracy and a soldier's, rather than a President's, life. It was also because the country's problems were acute, with aid falling off, jute export prices depressed, foreign exchange dwindling, and political disintegration continuing. In these circumstances a would-be national saviour is bound to pause.

When he finally moved it was not primarily because of these accumulating evils but because some cantonment officers were on the point of pre-empting him — and because the United States had just signed a huge five-year grain package for Bangladesh. Without this American insurance policy in hand General Ershad might have hesitated even longer.

General Ershad now faces the classic problems of a military dictator. He has *already* set in motion the familiar process of arrests, martial law trials, censorship and formation of a skeleton leadership aimed at returning Bangladesh to the politicians within the unlikely period of *two years, though the army* will still retain an "advisory role", he emphasizes.

As his initial period of grace runs out it is the military that General Ershad will have most to fear. Its ranks have provided most of Bangladesh's political assassins and it is divided, like the political parties it dissolved. There is a split between those who fought for independence in 1971 and those, like General Ershad, then in the Pakistan Army, who did not. There is also a split between the straight professionals and the impatient young cantonment officers *who want a bigger* role and are not averse to bloodshed. And forces are divided between the virtuous and those corrupt elements who chafed at the politicians controlling patronage. General Ershad's anti-corruption campaign could easily be subverted by his own soldiers, thereby removing his administration's *single biggest* claim to popularity.

For now, however, the most important determinant of the regime's direction will be foreign aid, because the country runs on it. *If General* Ershad wins back donor and investor confidence he will have a chance of survival. If the Western response is slow he will have increasingly to turn to Pakistan (he anyway leans towards it) and Saudi Arabia. One result of this could be the rise of Islamic *orthodoxy* in Bangladesh, though the country shows little sign of wanting it. Nor is it what General Ershad desires, but neither did he wish to overthrow an elected government, he said,

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Mining the seabed

From Mrs Elizabeth Young

Sir, Professor Denman (March 23) mistakes the time of day. His bright ideas for regulating seabed mining might have appeared plausible, even helpful in the mid-70s when the huge package deal that is the Unclos (United Nations Conference on the Law of the Sea) draft text was taking shape. It is today a text consisting of well over 300 articles, and agreement on every one of those *articles was achieved* by consensus: an achievement remarkable and unparalleled in international negotiation.

All the major delegations, among them the British and American, had throughout, at their elbow, representatives of all the major interests affected — shipping, hydrocarbons, fishing, seabed mining. Because agreement on an all-embracing text was the explicit intention of all the participants, as agreement was reached on some parts of the package, Governments, including the British and American, took pre-emptive advantage of that agreement and, for instance, extended their national fishery limits to 200 nautical miles.

The British Government, again basing itself on the agreement achieved in Unclos, is now preparing to extend our territorial sea to 12 nautical miles. Blue seas navies, including the Royal Navy and the United States Navy, and the respective air forces, have, as part of the package, retained rights of passage through and *overflight* of straits that a 12 nautical mile *territorial* sea might otherwise subject to coastal state whim.

It seems possible from your report (February 25) of their "Last-ditch effort to alter sea law" text that neither Professor Denman, nor Mr Ivens, Director of Aims of Industry (March 19) *for whom* Professor Denman had written a paper, quite appreciate what national and commercial interests they are seeking to *upset. After all, unless there is* a convention (and it will have to be more or less on the lines previous American Administrations have agreed) *the mining companies* themselves would be operating, as far as international law was concerned, in a legal vacuum. Protecting their *interests in such* a vacuum is not, I think, an intended part of either the United States Navy's, or the Royal Navy's, planned future responsibilities.

In short, without a framework of international law within which *to carry on their* business, the costs of seabed mining might well be prohibitive. Securing "improvements" is one thing; scuttling the whole convention quite another.

Yours, etc,
ELIZABETH YOUNG,
100 Bayswater Road, W2.

A third path for British electorate

From Mr Kenneth H. Taylor

Sir, The argument is being advanced by Conservative leaders that support for the SDP/Liberal Alliance will let in a left-wing Labour government. Yet what is the alternative? If no new party *had emerged, is it to be supposed* that the electorate would have returned Conservative majorities until the end of time?

Sooner rather than later the dread principle of Buggins's turn would have given us a Marxist Labour government in any case. Now at last there is a real alternative for the British electorate to consider.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,
KENNETH H. TAYLOR,
17 Creighton Avenue, N10.
March 27.

From Mr Howard Abramowitz

Sir, You start out well enough, stating clearly (leading article, March 27) that you think that Roy Jenkins is back where he belongs. But then you do go on equivocally, using the word fashionable at least three times, in what, one assumes, is an *intentionally patronising tone*.

You ask if what is wanted is an interminable series of coalitions, among other questions regarding *the possible outcome* of an SDP victory. I'd like to deal with that one alone. Why not? If a coalition is representative of a majority, why should that be less desirable than one party's programme having to be swallowed whole (at least theoretically)?

Yours sincerely,
HOWARD ABRAMOWITZ,
22D Belsize Grove, NW3.

From Mr A. C. Norfolk

Sir, *Mr Ivor Crewe (March 27)* says that almost all the 282 votes cast for the phoney Roy Jenkins were cast in error and intended *for the real Roy Jenkins*.

If this is so, is it not time that people who have changed their names by deed poll simply to *cause confusion at parliamentary* elections should be debarred from standing as candidates?

In a close-run contest this sort of deception could lead to flagrant injustice for a candidate unfortunate enough to be the victim. I am surprised that the existing law does not cater for what surely is a form of impersonation.

Yours faithfully.
A. C. NORFOLK
Grove End,
Mount Street,
Diss. Norfolk.
March 27.

From Miss A. M. Heawood

Sir, Could there be a more soundly based reason for *what* your leading article today, March 27, describes as the "phenomenal rise" of the SDP?

A year ago articles in your columns showed how support for the two major parties, strong in the 1950s, had fallen sharply in the 1970s. Following the Government of national unity during the last war and the establishment of *the welfare state there* were considerable areas of consensus politics whichever major party was in power. As the policies of *the right and left* have diverged more sharply during the last decade, so the "floating voter", seeking a member to represent his views, has become more and more volatile.

Had proportional representation been introduced in the late 1960s the SDP might not have been there "waiting to be born" in the 1970s. However in a period when governments, representing only a minority of the voters, act as though they have a mandate from the electorate as a whole it was inevitable, in a democracy, that the largely unrepresented centre *should break through*.

Yours faithfully,
A. M. HEAWOOD,
24 Nottington Court,
Nottington,
Weymouth,
Dorset.
March 27.

From Mr F. R. Alexander

Sir, The Hillhead election has shown that the deposit payable by prospective candidates has dwindled to insignificant proportions, and is no longer a deterrent to the lunatic fringe or to irresponsible jokers. The *waste of time*, money and administrative effort in indulging the whims of such people must be considerable.

I suggest raising it to a level sufficient to deter the one-man pain in the neck, but not enough to financially embarrass genuine parties.

Yours faithfully,
FRANK ALEXANDER,
The Home Farm,
Warren Road,
Crowborough,
East Sussex.

From Mr John Sherwood

Sir, At the risk of seeming pedantic may I, through your columns, beg the enemies of the Right Honourable Roy Jenkins, MP, to stop lowering the tone of political debate by describing him as a *bon viveur*?

A *viveur* is a person who loves a life of orgies and dissipation. A cheerful person who enjoys the pleasures of the table is a *bon vivant. Bon viveur* is not French.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,
JOHN SHERWOOD,
4 Surrenden Dering,
Pluckley,
Ashford, Kent.
March 26.

From Dr Frank Hardie

Sir, Could we now, please, have a reprint of Roy Jenkins's historic Dimbleby Lecture?

Yours sincerely,
FRANK HARDIE,
18 Kensington Gate, W8
March 26

Black cricket in South Africa

From Mr Robert Archer

Sir, Mr Fortune (March 26) asserts that the South African Cricket Union and the English *cricketers* who contract to play within it are working hard to improve black, and particularly schoolboy cricket. His arguments are those used by the black President of Sacu, Mr Rashid Varachia, when he spoke to the British Sports Council delegation to South Africa in 1980.

Unfortunately, they do not stand up to examination. There are today some 16,500 members of Sacu. About 15,000 of these are white. Eight of the 10 members of Sacu's executive are white. Neither of the two black members is African. Black cricketers in South Africa today have access to few pitches and fewer resources. African cricketers are particularly deprived in these respects.

Under these conditions is it *realistic to suppose* that the Sacu executive has a mandate from its membership to invest the very large sums which will be required to raise African standards of play when these resources must inevitably be provided *at the* expense of white club cricket? Neither Mr Fortune nor Mr Varachia explains how they are going to *persuade their members* to support their programme, which they have no power to vote into effect, and when it requires *white cricketers* to sacrifice their personal interests and privileges as cricketers, in a society where *the laws of apartheid* and white social customs both make it extremely difficult for them to do so.

How many truly mixed, inter-*racial clubs are there in Sacu?* How many black cricketers are playing at top competitive level? In both cases, the answer is: almost none. Indeed, most of the good black players who left the non-racial SA Cricket Board to join the new "multiracial" union when it was formed left after one season because they were disillusioned by the racism they experienced.

Moreover, the "*multinational*" sports policy, as defined by the government in 1976, specifically states that multiracial sport *should not occur at school level*. It must therefore be asked whether Sacu intends to encourage truly multiracial school cricket, or *merely* to provide occasional coaching sessions for black schoolboys who will subsequently have no opportunity to test their skills against their white peers.

The trouble with the arguments of Mr Fortune and Mr Varachia *is that they never say how they* intend to achieve their purpose. Unfortunately, white cricketers have offered black cricketers a "*helping hand*" *in the past*: it has always been with the aim of weakening their own international isolation and they have never fulfilled their promises. For the majority of black players, fine words are no longer convincing.

Yours sincerely,
ROBERT ARCHER,
6A Sylvan Avenue, N22.
March 26.

The Romans in Britain

From the President of the National Viewers' and Listeners' Association

Sir, You reported (March 23) the Attorney General as saying, in relation to *The Romans in Britain* case, that having got a ruling from the judge that there was a case to answer I "did not want to go to the jury".

I am tempted to say that after the extraordinary events which followed the ending of the trial — and the theatre at bay truly is a fearsome spectacle! — I really thought that nothing would ever surprise me again.

Yet here we have Sir Michael Havers, with all his vast legal experience, perpetuating the myth that *I* had withdrawn the prosecution when he must have known that, as Mr Kennedy, QC, made absolutely clear in court, the decision to withdraw was *his* and his alone.

It has been claimed (*Sunday Telegraph*, March 24) that the Attorney General was "very angry" with me, apparently believing that I *had never* intended the case to go its full course — a piece of speculation entirely without foundation.

No thought of such a possibility had ever crossed my mind. Furthermore, I knew nothing of the decision to withdraw until after it had been made. When I was later told of how the judge had found wholly in our favour as far as the legal arguments were concerned and I was asked *for my reaction to a withdrawal* of the case, I inquired as to what the defendant and his counsel thought about it. On being told that they were "delighted", then indeed I was delighted too. And it seemed to me everyone was delighted. But not, of course, for long.

I can well understand why the National Theatre lobby should wish to create confusion. I do not understand why the Attorney General should wish to aid and abet that confusion.

Yours sincerely,
MARY WHITEHOUSE,
President,
National Viewers' and Listeners' Association,
Ardleigh,
Colchester,
Essex.
March 25.

From Mr T. R. Woodford-Smith

Sir, If the Rev Eric Mathieson, whose letter about Mrs Whitehouse and *The Romans in Britain* you publish today (March 25), were not Chaplain to the National Theatre but simply Christ's representative on earth in his capacity as Vicar of St Alphege Southwark, would he, I wonder, feel compelled to defend so vehemently the theatre's right to fling a bucket of manure in the public's face?

Yours faithfully,
T. R. WOODFORD-SMITH,
4 Heene Court Mansions,
Marine Parade,
Worthing,
West Sussex.
March 25.

Mansion House plans

From Mr Cecil Farthing

Sir, Like most of your correspondents you are mistaken in *thinking that the Palumbo* scheme entails a "radical change in the historic street pattern" (report, March 25).

For almost 500 years this site was occupied by the Stocks Market — open on the ground floor with a simple store house above — and in 1543 there were 25 fishmongers' stalls and 18 butchers' stalls.

This open market was enlarged after the Great Fire by incorporating the remains of St Mary *Woolchurch* and *its* graveyard near by. Eventually the site was taken over in 1739 by the *Corporation for the erection of* the present Mansion House, but a wide open space at this spot would evidently be no novelty in *the long history of the City*.

Yours faithfully,
CECIL FARTHING,
61 Egerton Gardens,
London, SW3.
March 25.

Citizenship obstacle

From Mrs Ruth Runciman

Sir, May I add two points to Mrs Ann Dummett's excellent letter (March 22)?

She rightly draws attention to the Home Secretary's announcement on March 10 of an increase in the fees for obtaining British citizenship. But not only has he raised them by as much as 40 per cent; he has made them payable upon application and not, as up till now, upon acquisition of citizenship, a process which usually takes between one and two years. Thus three weeks' notice, without publicity, has been given of a change which will effectively disqualify thousands of people of whom *many* have an absolute entitlement to citizenship.

To make matters worse there is a chronic shortage of application forms. Advice agencies in East London have been struggling for the past fortnight to obtain enough forms to help those who could still benefit from the present fees and procedure, but will be unable to do so after April 1.

Telephone calls to the Home Office, which can take two hours to be answered, are producing supplies far short of those ordered. Special journeys to the Immigration and Nationality Department at Croydon have revealed that it is itself short of forms.

Simple equity requires that application forms for British citizenship should be widely available at post offices or banks, and that the right to pay at the end rather than at the beginning of the long process be restored. The acquisition of British citizenship is already fraught with anxiety and uncertainty; surely future citizens could be spared such unnecessary *additional* hardships.

Yours sincerely,
RUTH RUNCIMAN,
Chairman,
East London Area of Citizens' Advice Bureaux,
36 Carlton Hill, NW8.
March 26.

Police unrestrained

From Mr Peter Baird

Sir, During the last 24 hours on the roads of west London and north-east Surrey I have observed 20 police officers in 10 police cars, none of whom was strapped in.

Among the motoring public my impression is that at least 50 per cent strap in. Is this something else that the council can teach the police?

Yours faithfully,
PETER BAIRD,
St Stephens Hospital,
Fulham Road, SW10,
March 22.

Cure for souls

From Mr Patrick Tierney

Sir, I think your Religious Affairs correspondent is right when he predicts (feature, March 23) that the nature of the phenomenon which will be visited upon the British public 10 weeks from now will be Rome fever, *Pope* fever. But what about after he's gone — post-papal depression? Is there a cure?

Yours faithfully,
PATRICK TIERNEY,
13 Apple Tree Crescent,
Doddinghurst,
Brentwood, Essex.
March 23

Vienna Philharmonic

From the President of the Vienna Philharmonic Orchestra

Sir, With reference to your article, "London trying to build musical barricades" (March 26) the Vienna Philharmonic Orchestra wishes to state that although a visit of our orchestra to Great Britain in 1984 is under discussion there exist to date no definite agreements with any agent in London as to the number of concerts, their repertoire or their location.

Yours, etc,
ALFRED ALTENBURGER,
President,
Vienna Philharmonic Orchestra,
12 Bosendorfer Strasse,
1010 Wien,
Austria.

Concern over museum

From Professor D. T. Donovan

Sir, The letter from Mr. John Letts, *Chairman of National Heritage* (March 20) which refers to the "current controversy" about the Natural History *Museum confuses several* different issues. It refers to the lack of capital provisions for museum rebuilding, and to the current sad state of the *nation's geological* collections. This last has nothing to do with capital expenditure, but results from a long-standing insufficiency of *curatorial* staff. Probably a majority of our museums do not have the resources to curate, conserve and study the collections in their charge.

This does not apply to our national museums which are adequately funded. The National History Museum received £8.5m for recurrent expenditure in 1981-82 and is budgeted to receive £9.5m in 1982-83. Its geological collections are in excellent shape.

Mr. Letts then urges us to look at the museum's proposals, by which he presumably means the controversial East Infill Block, against the background mentioned above. *It is important to* realise that this proposal has nothing to do with the museum's collections or with facilities for *its scientific staff. This plan, for* which £18m (at 1981 prices) has been estimated over the next six years, will provide a modest increase *in* the area of public exhibition space, a cafeteria and cloakrooms. It will involve the demolition of part of the original *Waterhouse building*.

The area of public exhibition space in the museum is already large, and not all of it is currently in use. No arguments have been advanced to show that additional exhibition space is essential, and the museum *has* not explained the role that such space will play in its announced future exhibition programme. Finally, *it has been shown that if* the space is needed, it can be found in other ways, more cheaply, and *without* destroying *part of the original* building.

Yours faithfully,
D. T. DONOVAN,
Department of Geology,
University College London,
Gower Street, WC1.
March 24.

Sting in the tale

From Mr David Green

Sir, Weightless moths fly; weightless bees just drift around — proving, we are told, that the former adapt better to space shuttle conditions. What nonsense. No self-respecting bee ever did anything unless there was some point in it.

Yours faithfully,
DAVID GREEN,
Rhyd yr Harding,
Castle Morris,
Near Haverfordwest,
Dyfed.

COURT AND SOCIAL

COURT CIRCULAR

WINDSOR CASTLE
March 29: The Duke of Edinburgh, a Trustee of The Prince Philip Trust Fund for the Royal of Windsor and Maidenhead, this afternoon opened the Holyport Manor School Hydrotherapy Pool and later attended a Meeting of the Trustees at Eton College.

This evening His Royal Highness was present at a Gala Performance of *A Masked Ball* given by the Windsor and Eton Operatic Society in the Farrer Theatre, Eton College.

The Duke of Edinburgh, attended by Lord Rupert Nevill, was received by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant for the Royal County of Berkshire (Colonel the Hon Gordon Palmer).

YORK HOUSE
ST JAMES'S PALACE
March 29: The Duke of Kent, Colonel Scots Guards, this morning visited Regimental Headquarters at Wellington Barracks.

Captain John Stewart was in attendance.

THATCHED HOUSE LODGE
March 29: Princess Alexandra was present this evening at a Concert given by the Philharmonia Orchestra in the Royal Festival Hall on the occasion of the 80th Birthday of Sir William Walton.

Lady Nicholas Gordon Lennox was in attendance.

The Prince of Wales, president of the Prince's Trust, will attend a concert given by Status Quo in aid of the trust at the National Exhibition Centre, Birmingham, on May 14.

Princess Alice Duchess of Gloucester will attend the golden jubilee conference of the British Limbless Ex-Servicemen's Association at Imperial Hotel, Russell Square, London, on April 24.

The Duchess of Kent will attend a meeting in support of the St Marylebone parish church appeal on April 9, to be held in the Duke's Hall of the Royal Academy of Music, London.

The Duke of Kent will visit the International Gas Turbine Conference and Exhibition to be held at the Wembley Conference Centre and arena on April 21.

Princess Alexandra will be present at a gala variety performance, in aid of Crohn's in Childhood Research Appeal, at the Hexagon, Reading, on June 13.

A memorial service for Viscount Blakenham will be held today at St Margaret's, Westminster, at noon.

A memorial service for Dr M. M. Pennell will be held today at St Giles', Cripplegate, at noon.

Forthcoming marriages

Mr R. J. Bickersteth and Miss C. C. Paterson
The engagement is announced between Richard Julian, second son of the Bishop of Bath and Wells and Mrs John Bickersteth, of The Palace, Wells, Somerset, and Cecily Craig, eldest daughter of Sir Dennis and Lady Paterson, of Kensington Gardens, Adelaide, Australia.

Mr M. H. Chancellor and Miss R. S. Richardson
The engagement is announced between Murray, son of Dr and Mrs A. H. B. Chancellor, of Linley Point, Sydney, Australia, and Rachel, daughter of Mr and Mrs I. J. H. Richardson, of Hinton Farmhouse, Hurst, Reading.

Mr R. W. H. Coghlan and Miss H. M. Allen
The engagement is announced between Robin William Hickey, younger son of Mr and Mrs R. A. Coghlan, of 20 Vincent Square, London, SW1, and Hilary Mary, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs D. A. Allen, of Garsdon Manor, Malmesbury, Wiltshire.

Mr C. R. M. Gutteridge and Miss G. M. McCartney
The engagement is announced between Christopher Robert McClintock, son of Mr L. Gordon Gutteridge, of Tortola, British Virgin Islands, and Mrs F. M. McClintock, of Paget, Bermuda, and stepson of Surgeon Rear-Admiral C. L. T. McClintock, and Gillian Madge, youngest daughter of Mr and Mrs G. McCartney, of Budleigh Salterton, Devon, England.

Dr R. S. Hacking and Miss S. M. L. Berkovitch
The engagement is announced between Robert, only son of Dr and Mrs S. Hacking, of Hove, Sussex, and Susan, youngest daughter of the late Mr A. A. R. Berkovitch and of Mrs N. A. Berkovitch, of Thames Ditton, Surrey.

Mr J. J. Irwin and Miss T. M. Love
The engagement is announced between Jeremy, eldest son of Dr and Mrs D. H. Irwin, of Woodford Green, Essex, and Tessa eldest daughter of Mr and Mrs A. F. Love, of Wadhurst, Sussex.

Mr J. A. Robson and Miss E. F. Robinson
The engagement is announced between James, eldest son of Dr and Mrs C. R. Robson, of Long Newton, Cleveland, and Elizabeth, daughter of Mr and Mrs M. E. Robinson, of Norton, Cleveland.

Mr A. H. G. Wilson and Miss S. K. Young
The engagement is announced between Alexander, younger son of Mr and Mrs Caird Wilson, of 7 Bovingdon Road, London, SW6, and Susan, daughter of Captain H. R. C. Young, RN, and Mrs Young, of Petersfield, Hampshire.

Marriages

Mr T. A. F. Garnett and Miss B. M. Dey
The marriage took place on March 26, 1982, in London, between Mr Anthony Garnett and Miss Bridget Dey.

Dr H. Rashleigh Belcher and Miss G. Rothman
The marriage took place on Thursday at St John's Wood Church between Dr Henry Rashleigh Belcher and Miss Georgina Rothman. The Rev Timothy Raphael officiated, assisted by the Rev Ian Robson.

The Bride, who was given in marriage by her father, was attended by Isabella Service and Henrietta Rothman. Dr Nicholas Cheese was best man. A reception was held at St John's Hall, Regent's Park, and the honeymoon will be spent abroad.

Lieutenant-Colonel J. B. Ray and Mrs M. Fletcher.
The marriage took place quietly at St Peter's Church, Petersfield, on March 27 of Lieutenant-Colonel Bryan Ray, of Woodcote, Scackleton, Hovingham, York, and Mrs Mary Fletcher, of 9 Kimbers, Petersfield, Hampshire. They will be living in the Sultanate of Oman.

Suresh Karadia

Miss Gillian Lewis, assistant deputy director of the National Maritime Museum, Greenwich, with a globe designed in 1688. The surface of varnished paper gores on plaster is damaged and the museum is looking for a trainee globe conservator to help to repair it, along with other globes at Greenwich.

Memorial service

Brigadier J. E. Swetenham
A memorial service for Brigadier John Edmund Swetenham was held in York Minster yesterday. The Rev Gilbert Horwood officiated and lessons were read by Mr J. Foster Swetenham (son) and Major-General John Ward-Harrison. Those present included:

Mrs J E Swetenham (widow), Mrs J F Swetenham (daughter-in-law), Miss Charlotte Swetenham and J L Swetenham (grandchildren), Mr A C Swetenham, Sir Charles Jessel.

The Duke and Duchess of Leinster, the Countess of Feversham, Viscount and Viscountess Downe, the Dowager Lady Grimthorpe, Lord Manton, Lord and Lady Middleton, Brigadier the Hon R Hamilton-Russell, Colonel the Hon Nicholas and Mrs Crossley, Mary Lady Macdonald of Sleat, Colonel Sir William Brooksbank, Sir Paul and Lady Bryan, Lieutenant-General Sir Cecil and Lady Blacker, Lieutenant-General Sir Edward and Lady Howard-Vyse, General Sir John and Lady Anderson, General Sir John and Lady Stanier, Mr R A and Lady Jane Bethell, Major-General and Mrs Ian Baker, Major-General and Mrs H G Woods, Brigadier J R Fishbourne, Brigadier John Balharrie, Brigadier A Findlay, Brigadier D Maple, Brigadier and Mrs R Hobson, Brigadier and Mrs R Heathcoat Amory, Brigadier W G W Sloan, Colonel A Scrope, Colonel D N Stewart, Lieutenant-Colonel R B Anderson, Colonel Charles Wright, Lieutenant-Colonel R Rose-Price, Lieutenant-Colonel and Mrs D Tetley, Major Hayes Shaw, Major and Mrs Hammond Maud, Colonel Charles Taylor, Major Freddie Birchall, Major and Mrs P Mariell, Lieutenant-Colonel John Henderson, Colonel M G Barwick, Major and Mrs E Barron, Major Guy Cunard, Colonel C Mackenzie Smith, Major and Mrs Nevison Andrews, Lieutenant-Colonel and Mrs John Walton, Colonel D L Buckley, Lieutenant-Colonel D J Younger, Mr Robin Hill, Mr and Mrs C Chafer, Mrs J Burdass, Mr and Mrs L B Holliday, Mrs Jane Holt, Mr Faure Walker, Mrs Alastair Graham, Mr Jeremy Taylor and Mrs Cecily Plunkett.

Clifton College

The Council of Clifton College has appointed Mr Roger S. Trafford as Headmaster of Clifton College Preparatory School, to succeed Mr James W. Hornby, who is leaving to become General Secretary of the *Incorporated* Association of Preparatory Schools.

Mr Trafford, at present Headmaster of King's College Junior School, Pyrland Hall, Taunton, will take up his new appointment on January 1, 1983.

Lieutenancy of Greater London

The following deputy lieutenants of Greater London are to retire tomorrow:

Sir Cyril Black, Brigadier W Buffey, Lieutenant-General H. R. Hall, Colonel W. E. Preston, Sir Percy Rugg, Major H C Stewart, Major General Sir Nigel Tapp, and Mr W Charles Williams.

Gamble over sale of Mizne collection

By Geraldine Norman, Sale Room Correspondent

Sotherby's are taking a calculated gamble tonight with their sale of important twentieth century paintings. The gala evening sale is billed as "the property of a European collector" but the anonymous owner is well known to the trade. Mr Marcus Mizne commutes between Europe and the United States. His collection, formed mostly in the 1950s and 1960s, has been for sale privately for some time. The trade has viewed the prices asked as unrealistically high.

Some works have been sold from the collection while others have featured in Sotheby's and Cristie's auctions, both in Britain and in the United States. Tonight's sale includes twelve paintings which have been offered at auction in the past two years but were bought in, having failed to reach the owner's reserve. They include Fernand Leger's "Contraste de Formes" of 1913 which was unsold at Cristie's New York in May 1980 at $704,000 and is now estimated by Sotheby's in the £24,000 to £28,000 range; it was suggested at the time of the New York sale that this work was quite heavily repainted.

The sale could, however, turn out worth while for Sotheby's if the three main pictures attract the highly competitive bidding that has been recorded for real rarities over the last few years. A brilliantly coloured Kandinsky from the period when he was "inventing" abstract painting (1914) is the star turn, estimated at around £1.2m to £1.6m: it has been on offer privately at $3m according to the London trade, but no takers came forward at that price.

Then there is Braque's "Arbres et viaduc a l'Estaque" of 1908, a transitional work between his Cezannesque and Cubist styles, estimated at between £600,000 and £700,000, and a fine and rare early Mondrian, "Composition in grey-blue" painted in Paris in 1912 or 1913 and estimated at between £700,000 and £800,000. All those pictures if they reach the prices suggested would establish new auction price records for the artists.

Lower on the financial scale the art market was doing nicely yesterday. Sotheby's had a sale of Indian miniatures and related paintings, scheduled to coincide with the Festival of India. Little remained unsold.

The Company school paintings, works commissioned by Europeans, made exceptionally high prices. There were three botanical albums commissioned from an artist called Rungia Raju by Mountstuart Elphinstone Grant Duff, Governor of Madras from 1881 to 1886. The two larger albums of brightly coloured specimens made £18,700 (estimate £12,000 to £15,000) and £17,600 (estimate £10,000 to £15,000) and the smaller £9,900 (estimate £8,000 to £10,000).

There was also an album of fourteen watercolours of Indian festivals and ceremonies attributed to the artist Sewak Ram and dating from around 1813 which was bid to £9,900 (estimate £3,000 to £5,000).

Pahari miniatures were popular with a charming vision of Vishnu emerging from the mouth of a fish to attack the demon Hayagriva of around 1700 from Mankot made £4,180 (estimate £1,500 to £2,000) and "The sixth incarnation of Vishnu" from the same series at £5,280 (estimate £1,500 to £2,000).

Christie's were selling Chinese export porcelain, an area where prices have been weak but on this occasion only 11 per cent was unsold.

Birthdays today



Sir Robert Armstrong, Secretary of the Cabinet, who is 55.

Mr Warren Beatty, 45; Mr Justice Brown Wilkinson, 52; Professor L. W. Forster, 69; Professor Sir Ernst Gombrich, 73; Sir John Gray, 64; Sir Andrew McCance, 93; Mr I. C. MacLaurin, 45; Sir Derek Rayner, 56; Sir Petert Scarlett, 77; Lieutenant-General R. B. Trant, 54.

Luncheons

HM Government
Mr Humphrey Atkins, Lord Privy Seal, was host at a luncheon given at 1 Carlton Gardens yesterday in honour of Mr W. F. Cooper, Minister of Foreign Affairs and Overseas Trade of New Zealand.

Royal Society of Arts
Sir William Walton, OM, and Lady Walton were present at a luncheon held yesterday at the Royal Society of Arts to celebrate Sir William's eightieth birthday. Mr Ian Hunter, chairman of the society's council, was the host. Among other guests were Sir Lennox and Lady Berkeley, Mr and Mrs Andre Previn, Mrs Diana Menuhin and Professor and Mrs Gareth Morris.

Royal College of Surgeons of England
Sir Alan Parks, President of the Royal College of Surgeons of England, yesterday entertained at luncheon at the college Mr Geoffrey Kent, Mr Michael Pickard and Professor Harold Ellis.

Royal Over-Seas League
Sir David Scott, chairman, and members of the Central Council of the Royal Over-Seas League entertained at luncheon yesterday at Over-Seas House the Dean of Westminster, a vice-president of the league.

Dinners

Chartered Institute of Transport
Mr L. Juul Jørgensen delivered the Reginald Grout Memorial Lecture "A growing concern — meeting the challenges of shipping in the eighties" yesterday evening to the Chartered Institute of Transport at the General Council of British Shipping. Mr J. G. Davis, president of the institute, and Mrs Davis entertained Mr and Mrs Jørgensen at dinner at Kleinwort, Benson Limited, 20 Fenchurch Street, later. The other guests were:

The Danish Ambassador and Mrs Dahlgaard, Viscount Leathers, Sir James Duncan, Sir Adrian Swire, Lieutenant-General Sir Paul Travers; Mr R B Adams, Mr K Balding, Mr T L Beagley, Mr K Bech-Nielsen, Mr P A Flatte, Mr N M Forster, Mr E Helrung, Mr O Hegh, Mr D D Kirby, Mr R Leach, Mr D Leif, Mr J P MacArthur, Mr L C Merryweather, Mr K Moriya, Mr B Nachamkin, Mr M A Nicolson, Mr R B Reid, Mr B P Shaw, Mr W P Shovelton, Mr J K Stuart, Mr E Vesty and Brigadier D N Locke.

Old Guildfordians' Association
The annual dinner of the Old Guildfordians' Association was held on March 26 at the Royal Grammar School, Guildford. Mr A. J. Alder, chairman of the Association, presided, and the speakers were Mr Cliff Morgan, the guest of honour, the Mayor of Guildford, Councillor Ralph Jordan, and the Headmaster, Mr John Daniel.

Latest appointments

Mr O. M. W. Swingland, QC, to be a church commissioner for four years from April 1.

Professor Martin J. Kemp, Mr Charles J. Risk and Mr John Knox to be members of the board of Trustees of the National Galleries of Scotland.

Mr Bill Hodgson to be director of Development at Independent Television News and Mr Paul McKee to be deputy chief executive.

Mr Robert Morris and Mr Gwyn Robins to be divisional education officers of the Inner London Education Authority.

Latest wills

Latest estates include (net, before tax paid):

Allen, Mr Charles Edward, of Godmanchester, Cambridgeshire £249,926

Borwick, Sir Thomas Faulkner, of Englefield Green, Surrey, engineer £20,715

Cross, Sir Eugene, of Ebbw Vale, Gwent £40,050

Garrott, Mr Dennis Eric, of Blackboys, East Sussex £1,994,147

Osborn, Mrs Mabel Elsie Doris, of Bromham, Bedfordshire £245,175

Larder, Edith, of Cleethorpes £202,460

Redfern, Mr Kenneth, of Rainham, Kent, solicitor £236,011

Pargiter, Lord, of Caterham, Labour MP for Middlesex, Spelthorne, 1945-50 and for Southall 1950-66 £20,074

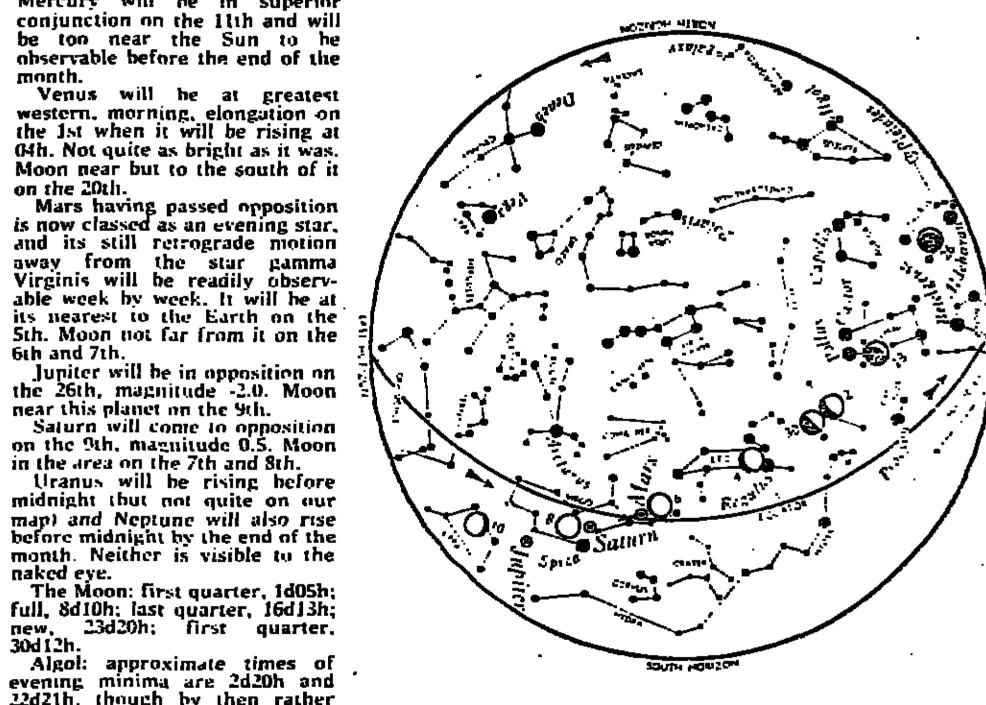
Simmonds, Mr Frank Arthur, of Lambeth, London £251,764

Walker, Mrs Gates Mary Leonard, of Lewisham, London £238,827

Watkins, Mr Alfred John, of Westcliff-on-Sea, Essex, company director £750,296

The Night Sky in April

By Our Astronomy Correspondent



The diagram shows the brighter stars that will be above the horizon in the latitude of London at 23hr (11 pm) at the beginning, 22hr (10 pm) in the middle and 21hr (9 pm) at the end of the month on Greenwich Mean Time. At places away from the Greenwich meridian the Greenwich times at which the diagram applies are later than the above by one hour for each 15deg west of Greenwich and earlier by a like amount if the place be east. The map should be turned so that the horizon the observer is facing is shown by the words around the circle is at the bottom, the zenith being the centre. Greenwich Mean Time: Universal Time and expressed in 24-hour notation, as used in the accompanying notes unless otherwise stated.

Mercury will be in superior conjunction on the 11th and will be too near the Sun to be observable before the end of the month.

Venus will be at greatest western, morning, elongation on the 1st when it will be rising at 04h. Not quite as bright as it was. Moon near but to the south of it on the 20th.

Mars having passed opposition is now classed as an evening star, and its still retrograde motion away from the star gamma Virginis will be readily observable week by week. It will be at its nearest to the Earth on the 5th. Moon not far from it on the 6th and 7th.

Jupiter will be in opposition on the 26th, magnitude -2.0. Moon near this planet on the 9th.

Saturn will come to opposition on the 9th, magnitude 0.5. Moon in the area on the 7th and 8th.

Uranus will be rising before midnight (but not quite on our map) and Neptune will also rise before midnight by the end of the month. Neither is visible to the naked eye.

The Moon: first quarter, 1d05h; full, 8d10h; last quarter, 16d13h; new, 23d20h; first quarter, 30d12h.

Algol: approximate times of evening minima are 2d20h and 22d21h, though by then rather low for observation in the north-western sky.

Jupiter and Saturn will come *into opposition this month and* Mars did so only 14h before the month began. The word opposition should not be difficult to interpret: it means that a planet is on the opposite side of the Earth from the Sun. The three bodies will be in a straight line with the Earth in the middle, and the planet should transit, that is cross the observer's meridian, at about midnight.

"About" is often used in these notes, as in astronomy simplification rarely works exactly. For example, the transit of Mars on March 31 was at 00h11m but the moment of opposition was 10 hours later; and that is not the only complication.

Another simplification is to say that an exterior planet is at its nearest at opposition. If the orbits were perfect concentric circles that would be so, but they happen to be ellipses or near-circles with the Sun off-centre. Mars will be at its nearest on the 5th, 0.635 astronomical units. The AU is the mean Sun-Earth distance of nearly 150 million kilometres, so the distance of Mars on the 5th will be 95 million km (59 million miles).

The distance of Saturn on the 9th will be 1297 million km (806 million miles) and that of Jupiter on the 26th 663 million km (412 million miles) but slightly nearer on the 27th.

Mercury will be in superior conjunction on the 11th; this is another straight line configuration, but this time with the planet on the opposite side of the Sun from the Earth. Even "straight lines" are not quite straight as the planetary orbits are not quite in the same plane.

Pluto being far beyond the naked eye, its visibility is not normally mentioned in these notes. It, too, will be in opposition this month, on the 15th, at a distance of 29.0 AU, which is less than that of Neptune at 29.8 AU on that date. In terms of mean distance Pluto is the planet furthest from the Sun, but its elliptical orbit is so eccentric that for some years its actual distance will remain less than that of Neptune.

Like Mars, Jupiter and Saturn it is in Virgo, making four out of the six outer planets in one constellation: Uranus is in Scorpius and Neptune in Ophiuchus. All six, and Venus as well, lie within a 70-arc relative to the Sun, but that does *not* mean the end of the world or any other catastrophie.

The night sky is still at its brightest for the early hours of darkness in the first half of the month. The Orion group, including Sirius and Aldebaran, will be still well up in the south-west until about 21h. The Twins, Castor and Pollux, Procyon, and Leo with Regulus will be visible until the early hours. Steadily rising in the south-east is Virgo with Spica, at present adorned by three bright planets. Not far away is Arcturus and, rising in the north-east, Vega and Deneb.

Twelve of the brighest stars and three planets; what more could you want for the simple enjoyment of a spring evening?

Moreover . . . Miles Kington

"Im just so thrilled!" said Maria Dallenhof last night, "I never dreamt that I would ever receive an Oscar, and yet here I am! This has got to be the greatest night of my life! Wow! I don't know whether to laugh or cry!".

It was easy to understand Maria's emotion as she *mingled with greats like* Barry Norman who, until that moment, had just been names to her. She had been plucked from obscurity to go up on stage and receive the award for Best Supporting Actress to a Supporting Actress, which had been won by her best friend Debbie Hooch who was unable to appear. The way she had comported herself at the microphone, playing the part of the girl who doesn't know how to laugh or cry, had brought film offers flooding in as she left the stage — and this for a girl who has never acted in her life.

"My friend Debbie won this award for her part in *On Golden Pond*", she said afterwards, half smiling, half sniffing. "She plays the role of Jane Fonda's friend who looks after her in Paris. Unfortunately, it was all cut out of the final version that cinema audiences have seen, but it's a stunning performance for all that and she deserves her Oscar terrifically."

We in Britain do not perhaps appreciate just how really beautiful and wonderful it is for an American to get their hands on an Oscar (which stands, by the way, for Outstanding Screen Cine*matograph Art Realization*). Yesterday Maria was a topless hamburger waitress; tomorrow, as soon as she has sent on Debbie's award, she will be a star of the future. This could only happen in America.

"Can I just make two points?" she told us exclusively. "One, it was the hamburgers that were topless — like, we didn't put buns on our 100 per cent prime beef. Two, this won't change my life. I've always behaved like a star."

Debbie Hooch had to face fierce competition in the Best Supporting Actress to a Supporting Actress category — from Linda Knowles, who played a patient who dies before the opening credits in *Whose Life Is It Anyway?*, Wendy Assher as the cousin of Lenin that we never see in *Reds*, and many others. How did Debbie feel when she heard about her Oscar (the initials, incidentally, stand for Opaline Statuette Chromed Against Rust)?

"Let's not talk about Debbie", said Maria. "I don't want to take anything away from her. Let's talk about me. And OK, Yes, the waitresses were topless too, but it was all done in terrific taste. I think anyone who could carry off being a topless hamburger waitress would manage a big role in Hollywood with no trouble".

Tomorrow Maria will be screen-tested for a possible role in a new film, *Topless Burger Bar II*, but today she can enjoy life as the girl who accepted an Oscar (Ornament Suitably Conspicous And Revolting). And it was burgers on the house when she revisited her old haunt to show her colleagues the glittering trophy she had accepted in such a moving ceremony (Obligatory Speech Containing Abysmall Rhetoric).

Life will never be the same again for this erstwhile humble catering operative who has now joined the immortal ranks of those whom America honours as handlers of an Oscar (Organization of Socio-Cultural Artistic Riff-raff). Moreover. California. March 29, 1982.

OBITUARY

DR H. GARDINER-HILL

Prominence in medical and golfing worlds

Dr. H. Gardiner-Hill, MBE, FRCP, who died on March 25 at Sydenham at the age of 91, was at one time equally well known in the medical and golfing worlds.

There are few golf clubs without medical members, and there is one not so very far from Oxford at which many a weighty decision concerning the spending of the Nuffield millions in medicine was reached. Few of these golfing doctors, however, achieved the status of captain of the Royal and Ancient, which Gardiner-Hill did in 1956; in addition, he was chairman of the Rules of Golf Committee of the Royal and Ancient from 1949 to 1952. This interest he retained throughout his life, his initiation having been as member of the Cambridge University golf team in 1911-1912.

Harold Gardiner-Hill was born on February 14, 1891, the son of a doctor. He was educated at Westminster School, Pembroke College, Cambridge, and St Thomas's Hospital. After qualifying in 1915 he served in the RAMC and the RAF, being mentioned in despatches. He completed his Service career as commanding officer of the RAF Central Hospital, Finchley.

On demobilization he became a Member of the Royal College of Physicians of London, and in due course was appointed a research assistant in the Medical Unit at St Thomas's Hospital under Professor Hugh MacLean. These were exciting days in clinical medical *research, and high hopes* were held of the advances that could be achieved at the newly established medical units, of which that at St Thomas's Hospital was one of the first.

After three years, however, Gardiner-Hill decided that clinical practice and not research was his forte, and resigned from the unit. As a member of the consulting staff of the hospital he rapidly became a well-known consultant.

His outstanding contributions were in the field of endocrinology, then anew specialty. He was one of the first of the London consultants to specialize in this field though he never forsook general medicine. Rather was he a general physician with a special interest in endocrinology. Here he rapidly established a high reputation.

In his earlier days the specialty was a relatively restricted one but, as following the isolation of cortisone and its analogues, it suddenly burgeoned out into the complex subject it is today. Gardiner-Hill kept pace with it and performed a useful service by translating the technical intricacies of the back-room experts into clinical usage. Indeed, in his latter days of professional practice he was regarded by the younger laboratory workers as what might be described as a clinical father confessor.

In 1940 his fellow-endocrinologists showed their appreciation of his services by electing him president of the section of endocrinology of the Royal Society of Medicine. An inability to suffer fools gladly, and a somewhat abrupt manner which could suddenly flare up in protest alienated some, but to patients no one could be kinder or more considerate. He mellowed with age though never quite losing his dogmatic outlook on life — or at least on the practice of medicine.

He *married Margaret Helen, the eldest daughter of* Sir Farquhar Buzzard, a consultant physician to St Thomas's Hospital and Regius Professor Medicine at Oxford University, by whom he had three sons.

MISS PHYLLIS PLAYTER

Glen Cavaliero writes:

Phyllis Playter, who died on March 10, was for over forty years the companion of John Cowper Powys.

A woman of unusual charm and intellectual distinction, she came from Kansas, where she acted as reader for Haldeman-Julius, publishers of the Little Blue Books, to which Powys was a contributor.

She combined an adventurous, pioneering spirit with a perceptive appreciation of literature and the arts, and accompanied Powys back to England in 1934, following their five years together in up-state New York, where *A Glastonbury Romance*, *Weymouth Sands* and *Autobiography* were all written.

After Powy's death in 1963 she continued to live in their tiny house at Blaenau Ffestiniog, North Wales, offering warm hospitality to the many scholars and devoted readers of his work who came to see her there.

Those who had the privilege of her friendship will mourn someone to whose devoted companionship of a great writer we are probably indebted for the achievement of his finest work; and who in her own right was a person it was both a pleasure and an education to have known.

MR FAZLUR KHAN

Mr Fazlur R. Khan, the well known structural engineer died on March 27 in Saudi Arabia. He was 52.

Among the buildings with which his name is associated are the Sears tower in Chicago which is 110 storeys high, and the 100-storey John Hancock centre.

A partner in the Chicago office of Skidmore Owings and Merrill, Khan also helped build many other famous buildings, including the Spectrum sports arena in Philadelphia, the Haj terminal at King Abdul Aziz international airport in Jeddah, Saudi Arabia, and the Hubert H. Humphrey metrodome in Minneapolis, Minnesota.

Born in Dacca, Bangladesh, Khan, who became an American citizen, gained recognition for a technique that uses rigid, interlocking steel-tubes to create a strong, lightweight and economical building frame for high-rise structures.

CAPT C. TOWNSEND

Captain Cecil Townsend, who has died at the age of 81, was Captain of Invalids at the Royal Hospital, Chelsea, from 1936-1982 and the holder of the hospital's last life appointment. He was a Councillor on the Chelsea Borough Council for over 20 years, representing the Royal Hospital Ward, and was made an honorary freeman of Chelsea on his retirement in 1965.

HARRIET ADAMS

Harriet Stratemeyer Adams, who created many of the Nancy Drew and Hardy Boys mystery books for children, died on March 27 at her farm at Califon, New Jersey. She was 89. Nancy Drew is an 18-year-old detective.

It was her father, Edward Stratemeyer, who invented the character, the Hardy Boys and the Bobbsey Twins. Before his death in 1930, he wrote more than 150 books for children, and created outlines for hundreds more to be written by ghost writers.

Three of the Nancy Drew stories were drafted by Stratemeyer shortly before he died. On his death, his daughter took over his business and rewrote the Nancy Drew stories, using the pseudonym Carolyn Keene.

Mrs Adams wrote more than 200 books for the Stratemeyer syndicate founded by her father, and plotted some 1,200 for ghost writers to complete.

Major-General Lancelot Edgar Connop Mervyn Perowne, CB, CBE, who served with distinction in the Army in South-East Asia in the Second World War, died on March 24 at the age of 79. He was major-general, The Brigade of Gurkhas, 1952-55, and from 1957 to 1966 was Colonel, The Gurkha Engineers.

ENTRIES DOWN FOR CONGRESS

By a Bridge Correspondent

In common with other long-established bridge congresses in England, entries were down for the Devon and Cornwall Congress held at the Palace Hotel, Torquay, at the weekend. Players from the joint counties won both the main championship events.

Championship pairs: 1, R Parkins, K A J Woods (Devon and Cornwall); 2, D L Breslaw, S A Cordell (London); 3, Mr and Mrs K Slee (Devon and Cornwall).

Mixed pairs: 1, Mrs H Townsend (Warwickshire), J Chancer (Middlesex); 2, Mrs J Hall (Warwickshire), S Gore (Berkshire and Buckinghamshire); 3, Mrs M G Edwards, G D Cronin (Surrey).

Flitch winners: Mr and Mrs S Kaye (Bedfordshire).

Cutty Sark mixed teams: 1, Mrs P Hallett, Mrs M Pellow, Mr and Mrs H R Haydon (Devon and Cornwall); 2, Mrs H Addison, Mr and Mrs G A Morris (London), Mrs D Georgevic (Warwickshire).

Championship teams: 1, J Woolcot, J Griffiths, Mrs J M Pearce, T McDermott (Devon and Cornwall); 2, P M Hadluck, K G Hands, Mr and Mrs J F Holman (Devon and Cornwall).

Consolation teams: C Freedman, G Freedman, D L Breslaw, S A Cordell (London).

Women's teams: Miss V Allinson, Miss J Scales (Gloucestershire), Mrs L Schillito (Nottinghamshire), Miss J Hare (Warwickshire).

University news

Manchester
Appointments

Professor I. E. Gillespie, professor of surgery, to be dean of the medical school from January 1, 1983.

READERSHIP: Dr J N Adams (Latin), Dr J Briscoe (Latin); Mr H A Alavi (sociology); Dr R N Ibbett (computer science); Dr P Montague (engineering); Dr B A O'Connor (engineering); Mr J Noble (orthopaedic surgery); Dr Elemer Szabadi (psychiatry).

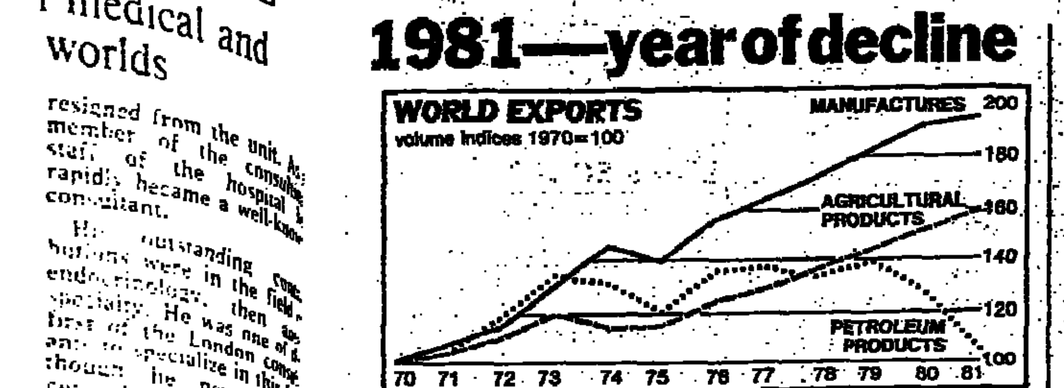
SENIOR LECTURESHIPS: Mr Sutton (geography); Dr Judith M Brown (history); Dr A L Forrest (French history); Dr M F Theobald (accounting); Dr R Hartley (decision theory); Dr D Howell (government); Dr K Burdett (medical biochemistry); Dr D Fallows (music); Dr F Heatley (chemistry); Dr J R Gurd (computer science); Dr C J Theaker (computer science); Dr D J Sendox (electrical engineering), Dr J E Treagus (geology); Dr J Comer (physics); Dr J R Hook (physics); Dr P G J Lucas (physics); Dr T J David (child health); Dr Joan E Munro (community medicine); Dr P N Durrington (medicine); Dr D J Pearson (medicine); Dr Cathryn H Buckley (pathology); Dr W J Hume (oral pathology).

LECTURESHIPS: Dr Sandra V Langrish, BA, MEd, PhD (Manchester) (adult education); Clare M Ronalds, BMed Sci, BM, BS (Nottingham) (general practice).

Grants
Medical Research Council: £59,888 to Dr D J S Hulmes for study of the mechanism of collagen fibril diameter regulation in vivo.
Science and Engineering Research Council: £160,716 to Professor W R Phillips for research in nuclear structure physics; £60,785 to Professor R M Case for study of epithelial transport of electrolytes, non-electrolytes and water; £50,479 to Dr A Tyler for study of the thermal resistance of dilute mixtures of He at ultralow temperatures.

BUSINESS NEWS

1981—year of decline



World trade volume stagnated last year, after a rise of just 1 per cent in 1980, according to figures published by Gatt. It was the worst trade performance since 1975. There was a drop in mineral exports, which offset expansion in other products. Petroleum exports declined by 14 per cent, while agricultural goods expanded by 5 per cent and manufactures by 3 per cent. In value terms, world trade fell by 1 per cent in 1981, to $2,000,000m. This was the first decline, in value terms, since 1958.

Tin cans to cost more

Prices of metal cans to food manufacturers will rise between 7.2 and 7.7 per cent next Monday, according to Metal Box, which supplies more than half the industry's needs. Prices were raised 8.5 per cent last October while only two-thirds of the fresh increase was due to increased tinplate prices, the Food Manufacturers' Federation said in a statement criticising the rise.

Opec faces $30,000m deficit

The world oil market slump could benefit Opec with a current account deficit of $30,000m in 1982 compared with a surplus of $60,000m last year, according to the Amex Bank Review. The review, basing its conclusions on the assumption that production cuts will limit the price falls to $32 a barrel, says that a 1981 surplus of $85,000m for producers who import relatively little could be almost eliminated. It suggests that "high" importers will increase borrowings and run down short term investments, while "low" importers may shorten the maturity profile of their portfolios to insure against uncertainties.

European bank offers £200m loans

An additional £20m in loans for small and medium-sized industrial and tourism ventures in Britain is to be offered by the European Investment Bank. Since 1978, £70m in seven-year loans has been made available by the bank, and so far 140 ventures have been financed, creating or safeguarding 11,500 jobs. Demand for EIB loans has eased slightly in the past year as interest rates elsewhere became more competitive.

Shipping surplus

World shipbuilding capacity is continuing to expand and the surplus of capacity is unlikely to disappear unless there is a significant improvement in world economic tends, according to Mr Robert Huskisson, chairman of Lloyd's Register of Shipping yesterday.

Sums wrong, page 17

● British Telecom has ordered private automatic branch exchanges (PABXs) worth £55m from three suppliers, GEC, Plessey and Nital.

MARKET SUMMARY

Boots ignore the gloom

LONDON EXCHANGE

FT Index 555.1 down 2.6
FT gilts 68.23 down 0.46
FT all share 320.46 down 2.54
Bargains 21,013

There was little enthusiasm for the start of the three-week account, but with the large number of leading stocks going ex-dividend the fall in the FT index of 2.6 to 555.1 represented no real change on Friday's close.

Gilts were hardly any better with renewed downward pressure on sterling and concern over increased bank lending pushing long dates down £¾, their lowest level of the day, with shorts £⅛ off.

Among exceptions to the minus signs posted against leading shares were Boots, 5p better at 225p reflecting brokers' bullish comments and improved profit forecasts, and P & O, dfdrwd rising 2p to 141p as speculation of an eventual bid from the Far East outweighed the likelihood of reduced year-end profits next month.

But allowing for ex-dividend adjustments, movement in leading equities was generally confined to 2p or 3p in either direction.

Companies reporting provided most of the interest, with the star turn being international engineering group Low & Bonar crashing 48p to 133p after a profits slump and near halving of the dividend.

Brighter trading news pushed Glynwed up 2½p to 116½p, while Horizon Travel put on 5p to 395p on increased profits and the one for one scrip issue. First trading news from the newly-merged Habitat Mothercare group was also well received with the shares 3p better at 133p.

British Aerospace rallied 10p to 180p ahead of results due today and expected to show profits of more than £70m pew-tax, while overseas trader Tozer Kimsley and Millbourn, which should report profits of less than half last year's £5.5m in the next few weeks, put on 2p to 80p on news that Mass Development Co. BBCof Bahrain had a 7 per cent stake.

Pearson Longman put on 6p to 322p, awaiting terms from S. Pearson, but the absence of any bid developments saw textile group Inter-City Investments 5p easier at 57p on profit taking.

Cement Roadstone, the Dublin-based construction group was unchanged at 78p after Mr Jim Culliton, group chief executive, warned that it would be hard to match lasts year's pre-tax of £26.64m (Irish).

Associated Communications shed 5p to 96p after Heron Corporation pulled out of the lengthy battle to gain control of the entertainments group. Meanwhile further reflection of its job cutting and rationalization plans clipped 16p from Metal Box at 146p.

Loss of the BL battery contract left Chloride 3p easier at 25p while adverse comment pushed Babcock down 7p to 91p ahead of figures this week which will show profits well down on last year's £15.2m pre-tax.

Suggestions that Sheffield steel-maker Johnson and Firth Brown may need a capital restructuring were firmly denied by several of the company's financial advisers, but left the shares 2p down at 12p.

A 10 per cent profits setback left Pilco A 10p off at 190p but mail order group Freemans put on 2p to 140p having touched 148p ahead of figures and a cautious statement from the board. George Dew made a firm opening at 135p having opened at 128p.

Equity turnover on March 26 was £153. 850 (19,122 bargains).

Gereth David

COMMODITIES

While the International Coffee Organisation resumed its talks on charges to the pact after September 1983, coffee for March delivery gained £10 to £1,367 a tonne. But May coffee fell by £5 to £1,183 a tonne. Roaster demand was said by dealers to be quiet.

The ICO has set up three groups to examine issues such as selective indicator prices, quotas, buffer stocks and how to cope with shortfalls.

The International Tin Council also met yesterday, but it adjourned until today so that consumers who have doubts about introducing export controls could consult their governments.

OTHER EXCHANGES

Tokyo: Nikkei Dow Jones Index 7,199.16 down 11.49.
Hongkong: Hang Seng Index 1,174.73 down 13.46.

CURRENCIES

● The dollar was strong, particularly against the Deutsche mark, as Eurodollar interest rates firmed. Sterling slipped against the dollar but was firm against European currencies.

Sterling
1.7800, down 1.05 cent
Index 90.9, unchanged
DM 4.30
Fr F 11.095
Yen 439½

Dollar
Index 116.2, up 0.5
DM 2.4135, up 160 pts.

Gold
$319, down $4

TODAY

Mr Kenneth Baker, Minister for Industry, speaks at Cadcam '82 computer-aided design exhibition, Brighton.

Board meetings: Interims: C H Beazer, Charterhall, Ernest Lighting, Ferry Pickering. Finals: American Trust, APV Holdings, Bambers Stores, Booker McConnell, British Aerospace, Cape Industries, Decoufter Bros, Dreamland Electrical Appliances, Grampian Holdings, Home Counties Newspapers, House Property Company of London, Kleinwort Benson Lonsdale, Lambert Howarth, H and J Quick, Reckitt and Coleman, Spirax Sarco Engineering, Standard Chartered Bank and Wolstenholme Rink.

MONEY MARKETS

● Money markets were nervous on growing uncertainty as to which way rates will move next. The Bank, having raised its shortage forecast from £250m to £600m, bought £649m of bills, accepting slightly lower prices in Band 2(13 - 13¾× and Band 3.

Domestic rates:
Base rates 13
3 month interbank 13⅝ -13⅝
Euro-Currency rates
3-month dollar 15⅝ - 15⅝
3-month DM 9⅝ -9⅝
3-month FR F 25 - 24

Britain tipped to win £500m Indian order

By Peter Hill and Edward Townsend

British engineering companies, led by Northern Engineering Industries, expect to learn today that they have emerged as front-runners to win a massive export contract for India.

The value of the contract for the design and construction of a coal-fired power station which, if confirmed, will secure thousands of jobs in the hard-pressed electrical engineering industry, is likely to be between £500m and £600m.

Industry sources expected an announcemnt by the Indian Government today. It will formally initiate negotiations which are confidently expected to lead to the signing of a letter of intent *within a few weeks.*

NEI has been selected as lead contractor for the project but GEC would provide the turbines for the power station with Babcock and Wilcox also involved. The project is associated with the development of a coal mine close to the site at Singrauli in which the National Coal Board's overseas consultaancy arm is expected to be involved. The electrical engineering companies are being supported by the Central Electricity Generating Board's international consultancy experts.

NEI, with lose involvement of the Departments of Trade and Industry, had ben involved in talks with the Indian authorities for almost two years. Further talks between senior executives of NEI and the Indian Government took place last week during Mrs Indira Gandhi's London visit.

The expected announcement will go some way to compensating NEI for the reported loss of a £280m. Power station development in Brazil in which the company and Kloeckner UK were to


Mr John Biffen

have been the chief foreign participants. Despite reports from Brazil that the project is not to go ahead, Whitehall *sources last night indicated* that the Government has not completely written off the chances of British companies winning work. Hopes for progressing British involvement in the Brazilian deal now hinge on the forthcoming visit to Brazil by Mr John Biffen, the Trade Secretary.

Initially, the Indian contract is expected to call for the supply of equipment for a *1,000* megawatt output. Earlier there were hopes that British companies would also *win valuable contracts* for the construction of a transmission line but last night those hopes seemed to have receded.

Financing of the eventual package will play a crucial *role in the* final round of negotiations. Lazards, the merchant banker, has been *involved in drawing* up finance for the project which will also be associated with Government funding through the Export Credits Guarantee department and the Overseas Development Administration.

Nigeria oil trade 'at normal levels'

By Baron Phillips

Three Western oil companies said yesterday Nigerian oil shipments were taking place as normal in the face of blacklisting threats from Opec.

Shell said last night that it was continuing to lift Nigerian oil as normal. The company said it was "strictly respecting the clauses of our contracts with Nigeria. Indeed we've had no complaints from Nigeria, with whom were in constant contact."

Opec producers have been applying pressure on leading refining companies to continue lifting Nigerian oil in spite of its higher price, more than $4 a barrel higher than North Sea oil.

In the United States, both Mobil and Gulf said yesterday that they have not suspended shipments of Nigerian oil. A spokesman for Mobil in New York said *the company* was expecting to take a delivery of Nigerian oil on Thursday. He admitted the company had submitted to Opec pressure to continue buying Nigerian crude at the official price of $35.50 a barrel.

A Gulf official said: "We have not suspended liftings. We are continuing in close contact with the Nigerian government."

But a third leading United States oil company, Texaco, would not confirm or deny that it *had reduced or* suspended shipments from Nigeria.

Nigerian oil production has dipped dramatically in recent months as the world glut has forced down prices. Production fell to 1.5m barrels a day last month from more than 2.3m barrels a day in 1979.

Shell has an equity oil sharing agreement with the Nigerian National Petroleum Corporation under which the company is required to lift 20 *per cent of the production* under that deal.

Traders on the Rotterdam *spot market said moves* by Opec to force companies to contiue liftings from Nigeria would sustain the surplus of oil on world markets and increase the downward pressure on prices over the *long term.*

Dispute over Jersey haven

Taxman claims £15m from Clore fortune

The systematic removal of assets from the fortune of the late Sir Charles Clore to the taxhaven of Jersey left *the Inland Revenue* with almost no means of recovering its share of the Clore millions, the Court of Appeal was told yesterday.

Sir Charles's death before realization of his principal *asset — a £20.5m estate in* Herefordshire — made his beneficiary liable for £15m capital transfer tax, the Inland Revenue claimed.

The estate was transferred to Stype Investments (Jersey), which sold it to the Prudential Assurance Company in September 1979 — two *months after* Sir Charles died, Mr Peter Millett, QC, for the revenue, said.

The £20.5m was immediately banked in Jersey — and whether the Revenue could begin proceedings to recover capital transfer tax would depend on the courts ruling that Stype had "intermeddled" in *Sir* Charles's assets, he said.

In a hearing expected to last a week, the Revenue *is* appealing against a March 1981 High Court ruling that it was not entitled to *serve* a summons relating to Stype's tax liability.

Mr Millett *said* that the crucial point in the appeal would be the site of the assets *at* the date of Sir Charles's death. "Is the Crown to be deprived of any means whatever of recovering tax due to it by steps


The late Sir Charles Clore

taken after death to remove *assets from its jurisdiction?"* he asked.

Lords Justice Templeman, Watkins and Fox would also be required to consider whether Stype — as a Jersey-based company — was immune from the Revenue's claims, counsel said.

At the same time as the Revenue appeal the court will also hear an appeal by the executors of the £30m-£40m Clore estate against a December 1981 High Court ruling that the Official Solicitor should take over its administration for the time being.

An additional claim against the executors has been lodged by Sir Charles's son, Alan, who received nothing under *his father's will.*

New fears of poor US money supply figures

Rates concern boosts dollar

By John Whitmore

Increasing concern that American interest rates could *move up sharply in the next* few weeks gave the dollar a fresh boost on world foreign exchange markets yesterday.

It was notably strong against the Deutsche mark, comfortably breaching the psychologically important DM 2.40 level to close 1.6 pfennigs up on the day in London at DM 2.4135.

The pound also fell back in the face of dollar strength, weakening by 1.05 cents to $1.78. However, it remained steady against most other currencies and its index *against a basket of* currencies finished unchanged at 90.9. With the Deutsche mark taking the brunt of the move into the dollar, some of the pressure came off the French franc yesterday, *though the Belgian franc* continued to hover just above its EMS floor. The French currency finished at FF 6.235 to the dollar.

Although the dollar was helped by last Friday's trade *figures and by end- month*



and end -quater book- squaring, the main impetus for its rise came from speculation that United States interest rates may be forced up by poor monery supply figures in April.

This worry arises mainly from the impact that social security payments and tax refunds could have on the United States money supply early next month. The figures giving some indication of the impact will not be published until mid-month, but it is generally expected that they could produce another bulge in the money supply similar to the one seen in January.

Just how serious that would be would depend on how quickly the effect reversed itself over ensuing weeks. Were the inflationary effect not to wash out, the assumption is that within a *few weeks the Fed might* be forced to tighten its monetary stance, forcing interest rates higher.

In London money markets there is increasing nervousness over whether the Government will be able to lead interest rates down this spring in the way it hoped.

Yesterdy's slight rise in the rates (in bands 2 and 3) at which the discount houses offered paper to the Bank of England reflected a combination of this nevrvousness and a tight technical position *in the market in the face of* the massive sale and repurchase agreements on eligible bills that are currently being unwound. As yet, there has been no move by the Bank itself to signal that it wants *to see higher interest rates.*

Stone-Platt subsidiary sold to US group

By Margareta Pagano

Platt Saco Lowell, the lossmaking textile machinery subsidiary of Stone-Platt *Industries,* has been sold with the loss of 454 jobs, nearly half the division's workforce.

The buyer is the United States textile group John D. Hollingsworth on Wheels, and the sum involved is believed to be £12m. Stone-Platt collapsed 10 days ago when Midland Bank withdrew its support and called in the receiver as a deal with Hollingsworth was to be announced.

Mr Bill Mackey, the receiver from accountants Ernst & Whinney, *said* yesterday the deal depended on staff reductions.

PSL's main works in the United Kingdom, based at Accrington and Helmshore in Lancashire, employed 1,000 people.

Hollingsworth will also be acquiring PSL's operations in *South Carolina employing* 1,250 and its interests in Manlleu in Spain, where 500 people are involved.

The agreement requires clearance by the United States anti-trust authorities. It is expected to be unconditional and within the next two weeks.

Meanwhile, the receiver will continue the Accrington and Helmshore business until Hollingsworth can take over. Talks on the redundancies will be held with MPs and union leaders over the next few days.

Mr Mackey said that the transaction was seen as the only available one which would assure continuing production and employment. Hollingsworth intends to carry on with Accrington's research into advanced spinning technology and aims eventually to use it for manufacturing there.

Over the past three years PSL recorded total pre-interest losses of £10m and the division was seen as the source of the company's original troubles. It has already *been slimmed down* and trading problems were blamed on competitive trading by European manufacturers.

The search for buyers of Stone-Platts' other businesses continues and interest has been expressed in Britain and the United States. Stiff competition for the *sale* of the profitable electrical division is expected.

N. Sea oil's 'neutral impact'

By Frances Williams

Possession of North Sea oil may have given Britain a real exchange rate as much as 10 to 15 per cent above what it would otherwise have been, according to a Treasury paper published this week.

But the paper disputes the widespread belief that oil requires a large structural adjustment in the economy, notably a big contraction in the relative share of manufacturing, with the exchange rate as the implementing mechanism.

The Treasury argues that *the main impact of North Sea* oil has been indirect. It has shielded us from having to expand our manufacturing sector in order to export more to pay for costly oil imports, as other countries have had to do. In this sense, the impact has been neutral.

But Britain cannot insulate *itself from the effects of* higher oil prices on the world economy, the paper says. Because other countries have to export more, and Britain does not, the prices of British exports (the real exchange rate) *must* rise relative to those other countries.

Banks' role in recession defended

By Peter Wilson-Smith

Barclays Bank has advanced several hundred million pounds to its industrial customers to keep them afloat during the recession, *Mr Timothy Bevan said* yesterday in his first annual report as the bank's chairman.

In answer to critics, he denied that banks welcomed *high* interest rates and pointed out that, despite the advantage to the banks of non-interest bearing accounts, Barclays had to cope with 594 million cheques last year costing more than *20p each to clear.*

On events in Poland and elsewhere, Mr Bevan said: *"It is clear that the world is* becoming a riskier place in which to lend and it is more than ever important that the banks maintain traditional habits of careful evaluation of risk and remember the *basic principle* that risks should be spread. There is the continuing need, too, for bankers not to be dazzled by size and prestige.

"Having said that, I think we need to be careful not to become over-pessimistic about the periodic need for countries or corporations to *reschedule their debts."*

After Lloyds, Barclays is thought to be the biggest *United Kingdom* lender to Poland and is also involved with the Romanian debt rescheduling.

However, the clearing banks come in for some *sharp* criticism today in a mortor trade survey which describes their practice of charging first and discussing later as "The State Secret Syndrome" (Clifford Webb writes).

More than 300 distributors and dealers took part in the survey, "Negotiating with the Bank", conducted by *Ronald* Sewell and Associates, the Bath-based consultants who specialize *in motor trade* management. The dealers range from groups with less than £500,000 turnover to more than £10m. But all reported great variations in their bank charges and one in four had little or no knowledge of the advantages to be gained by insisting on negotiations to determine interest rates.

"Negotiations with the Bank" price £20. Sewells, 1 Queen Square, Bath, BA1 2HE.

Satellite TV date set for Easter

By Torin Douglas

Britain's first satellite television service goes on the air in two weeks' time, with a programme schedule built round ITVhit series such as *Bouquet of Barbed Wire, The Rag Trade* and *Within These Walls.*

United Kingdom television commercials for advertisers such as Schweppes will be broadcast during the programmes — but viewers in Britain will not be able to receive the service.

Satellite television will start broadcasting on Easter *Monday,* April 12, to cable-television viewers in Norway and Finland. It will broadcast for two hours every evening, starting at 7 pm United Kingdom time, and the programmes will go out in English.

The programme schedule is subject to last minute alterations, but a draft schedule available to advertisers shows *Bouquet of Barbed Wire* running on Mondays, *Affairs of the Heart,* on Wednesdays, and *Within These Walls* on Saturdays. All these programmes were produced by Londo Weekend Television.

"I think this schedule, simple as it is, is a very strong one for people whose second language is English" Mr Michael Chapman, vice-*chairman of the Ogilvy and* Mather advertising agencey said. According to Mr Martin Lester, a director of All Media Sales, the company which is selling the advertising for the service, three-quarters of the airtime in the first week has already been booked.

One of the advertisers running commercials is Schwepps, which has been taking part in pre-launch trials for the service

The satellite television service will be broadcast via the Orbital Test Satellite (OTS), by agreement with Eutelsat, the European body *of telecommunications auth*orities, on which British Telecom represents the United Kingdom. The transmissions will be fed to the satellite from a British Telecom station in Martlesham, Suffolk.

How long the service will be in operation remains in doubt *because the operational* life of the OTS is now fairly limited. It has not yet been determined whether satellite television will be granted similar facilities on a successor to OTS

Reviews of the chairmen of the Transvaal gold mining companies administered by Anglo American Corporation

aac

"The recovery in the gold price may be slow but this will give the market renewed stability."

The following is an abridgement of the text common to the annual reviews for 1981 of Mr. H. F. Oppenheimer, chairman of Elandsrand; Mr. N. F. Oppenheimer, chairman of S.A. Land; Mr. D. A. Etheredge, chairman of Vaal Reefs and Mr. G. Langton, chairman of Western Deep Levels, Afrikander Lease and Southvaal Holdings.

Gold

The average price of gold at the London fixings fell to $459 an ounce in 1981 from $614 the previous year. Although the effect on South African gold mines was alleviated to a certain extent by the depreciation of the rand against the dollar, the average price received nevertheless declined to R12 988 a kilogram from R15 491 in 1980. During 1980, however, it was the exceptional confluence of a host of both political and economic circumstances that boosted speculative demand for gold to unprecedented levels in January and again in September. Whereas the initial run-up in the price of gold was initiated by investors who sought to protect the value of their assets against inflation, the market soon came to be dominated by short-term investors and speculators who sought to maximise the immediate return on their investments. Widespread liquidation of physical positions and a collapse in demand, particularly for jewellery fabrication, started the downward price trend that does not yet appear to be broken.

During the past year trading has been conducted in relatively narrow bands in a market largely confined to professional traders. Sales of mine production showed a slight increase in 1981 over 1980, largely as a result of aggressive sales, especially in the second half of the year, by the Soviet Union. Despite sharply reduced secondary supplies and a big upswing in offtake by the jewellery industry at the lower price, the market remained in oversupply due to weak investment demand. With real interest rates at record level as a result of the strict monetary policies of the US authorities and consequently a strong dollar, investors, disappointed by the short-term performance of the gold price, withdrew from the gold market.

There is, nevertheless, very good demand for coins and small bars from the traditional hoarders in the East, where buyers are taking the opportunity to acquire an asset which is, in relation to the last two years, perceived to be cheap. In Japan, the market is firm and once banks are permitted to sell gold from April onwards, it may be expected that demand in this area will strengthen further. This buying activity, however, is not yet sufficiently strong to overcome the fears of investors in the West who look more to international economic factors than to actual flows of gold. It is for this reason that the widely anticipated strengthening of the market price when US interest rates declined did not eventuate.

Looking to the short to medium-term future, it seems that the price of gold will depend upon two major factors, namely, the economic policies of the industrialised countries and the level of supplies from the USSR. The bottom of the previous bear trend in August 1976 was marked by circumstances similar to those seen today: a stabilisation of the jewellery industry with significantly increased coin and small bar demand together with increased supplies. While it is pleasing that the role of gold in monetary affairs is again being considered by the United States, it seems highly unlikely that the congressional committee appointed to investigate this matter will come to any conclusion that will materially affect the gold market. The basic question is, therefore, whether the Western governments will continue with their strict monetary policies or whether political expediency in the face of massive unemployment, especially in the US with the forthcoming mid-term elections imminent, will result in a move back to gold. The price of gold has shown resilience in a market that appears dominated by bearish sentiment and it is worth remembering that current price levels would have been considered outstanding only three years ago. I believe that increased demand, later this year, will halt and reverse the present trend. The recovery may be slow but this will give the market renewed stability.

Industrial relations

As announced by the Chamber of Mines after the publication of the Wiehahn Commission final report late last year, the industry has embarked on discussions with the trades unions and the officials' associations which are intended to provide white employees with a greater feeling of job security without which the desired improvement in the utilisation of all employees cannot be achieved.

Meanwhile, trade unionism amongst black workers, which has grown rapidly in the South African commercial and industrial sector, is showing signs of emerging in some areas of the mining industry, though no formal approaches for recognition have been received by any of the companies. Some of the hitherto exclusively white trade unions have opened their membership to non-white employees but, again, this development is very recent and it is not possible yet to assess the effect it may have or the direction it may take.

For many years we have been engaged in improving communications and relationships with our employees and creating better living and working conditions. A system of industrial relations audits which determines the extent to which the mine has achieved the targets it sets for itself has been introduced.

Slow progress is being made in the sensitive interface areas of our industrial relations because of an inherent conservatism and the fact that there are such large numbers of workers on the gold mines who come from diverse parts of South Africa with different languages and cultural backgrounds, the majority of whom, generally, have not been afforded the opportunities of more than primary education. This makes it apparent that a smooth process of change and development faces formidable difficulties. A further constraint is that of finance, particularly as the costs of housing, amenities and infrastructure have escalated so alarmingly in recent years that it is not always possible to proceed as fast as we wish.

Nevertheless, important changes have taken place in this group and in the mining industry as a whole over the last few years and a good foundation is being laid for the future.

SUMMARY OF OPERATIONS

	Vaal Reefs 1981	Vaal Reefs 1980	Vaal Reefs South Lease area 1981	Vaal Reefs South Lease area 1980	Western Deep Levels 1981	Western Deep Levels 1980	Elandsrand 1981	Elandsrand 1980	S.A. Land 1981	S.A. Land 1980
GOLD Tons milled 000's	8 502	8 595	3 078	2 858	3 156	3 329	1 214	985	1 514	1 338
Yield - grams/ton	8.65	8.13	10.90	10.59	12.36	13.70	4.29	5.33	0.98	1.11
Production (kg)	73 507	69 876	33 547	30 270	39 013	45 621	5 204	5 250	1 478	1 486
Cost-Rand/ton milled	42.31	36.39	39.82	38.21	55.53	44.17	50.17	42.98	3.88	3.93
Cost-Rand/kg produced	4 881	4 399	3 654	3 608	4 492	3 223	11 704	8 063	3 970	3 537
Price received - Rand/kg	12 916	15 784	12 916	15 784	12 979	15 931	12 988	15 491	12 896	15 438
Working profit R000's	591 416	799 047	311 085	368 270	331 630	582 885	6 629	39 801	4 918	6 720
Royalties paid R000's	158 202	195 637	158 152	195 587*	–	–	–	–	–	–
Capital expenditure R000's	136 612	126 106	61 210	54 197	121 530	21 936	28 769	37 055	4 277	2 545
Tax R000's	218 481	336 120	–	–	126 360	328 303	–	–	610	2 114
Dividends cents/share	980	1 320	–	–	405	800	–	–	40	55
URANIUM Production (tons)	1 694	1 758	790	773	212	213	–	–	–	–
Profit R000's	42 524	46 396	23 193	21 631	5 072	3 501	–	–	–	–

*Paid by Vaal Reefs to Southvaal Holdings

The annual general meetings of these companies, all of which are incorporated in the Republic of South Africa, will be held at 44, Main Street, Johannesburg, South Africa, on 29 April, 1982. Full copies of each of the chairmen's reviews together with the annual reports of all the companies may be obtained from their London office at 40, Holborn Viaduct, EC1P 1AJ, or from the office of the United Kingdom Transfer Secretaries, Charter Consolidated P.L.C., P.O. Box 102, Charter House, Park Street, Ashford, Kent TN24 8EQ.

BUSINESS NEWS/COMPANIES AND MARKET REPORTS

HABITAT MOTHERCARE

Strong start as interest costs fall

Figures issued yesterday from Habitat Mothercare are of strictly limited relevance to the shares. They relate solely to the Habitat side of the business, where last year's offer for sale prospectus indicated that there was nothing on the horizon to upset the sales and profits growth of the past five years. They exclude any contribution from January's £117m merger with Mothercare, whose profits outlook after the previous year's collapse was looking much more uncertain.

As it is, Habitat has maintained the progress in the half year to January 10 envisaged in the prospectus. Sales are 20 per cent ahead at £45.4m, trading profits are up 32 per cent to £3.93m and at the pretax level the big saving in interest charges as a result of the £12m tender offer proceeds has lifted profits 55 per cent to £3.56m, which compares with the £4.4m made last year.

The dividend is 1.7p a share gross, 5.1p total for the year and the yield at 132p of under 4 per cent reflects the growth prospects the market is expecting.

The first half performance was helped by the opening of four Habitat shops in this country and France, bringing the total to 56.

Mr Terence Conran, the chairman, is more cautious about the second half warning of tough trading in the United States and United Kingdom although there have been signs of a pick-up by Mothercare after the launch of the spring catalogue.

The new group is expanding with new stores planned for both Habitat and Mothercare.



Terence Conran: maintaining progress

APPLEYARD

Losses cut

Appleyard Group, the Leeds-based car distributor and retailer, cut its pretax losses from £1.9m to £1.4m in the year to December, despite a worsening of the market in the last quarter.

"The position was exacerbated by the complete collapse of the heavy commercial vehicle market, which reflected the low level of business activity as vehicles were laid up or not replaced", Mr Ian Appleyard, the chairman, said.

Sales for the year slipped from £116.5m to £98.5m and there is no final dividend after the 0.14p gross paid at the halfway stage to retain trustee status. No dividend was paid the previous year.

"All motor car manufacturers and importers were battling for market share and there was a continual succession of promitional schemes which eliminated profit margins and caused many retail outlets throughout the indusrty to trade at a loss", Mr Appleyard said.

"The exceptionally bad weather in Fanuary seriously affected both vehicle sales and service throughout the United Kingdom, but there are now signs of a slight improvement in market conditions. The timing of a definite upturn in the economy is sdll uncertain, so it impossible to forecast the 1982 results," he added.

Stated losses per share were 18.9p against 22.9p. On a current cost basis losses before tax fell from £2.94m to £1.94m. The shares eased 2p to 66p.

SKETCHLEY

Offer extended

Sketchley, the high street cleaners, is extending its $33-a-share offer for Means Services, the Chicago-based rental group, to April 4. By March 26, 3,100 Means shares had been tendered. The anti-trust division of the United States Justice Department is investigating a rival $37-offer for Means ARA Services.

CHARTERHOUSE

Strong rise

A strong performance from the development capital operations helped Charterhouse Group to boost pretax profits from £16.1m to £22.6m in 1981. Development capital lifted profits from £3.9m to £13.3m, much of the increase coming from the public offerings of Dreyers Grand Ice Cream Co and Paco Pharmaceutical Services in the United States.

Charterhouse is paying a 4.29p gross final dividend, leaving the total up from 6.44p to 7.04p. This is despite a drop in earnings per share from 9.64p to 7.12p, reflecting a big rise in the tax charge. The tax take was up from £4.3m to £11.3m because of a larger proportion of overseas profits, unrelieved ACT and more profit from associated companies.

Charterhouse Japhet, the merchant bank, which has now been integrated with Keyser Ullman, showed an increase in profits from £4.2m to £5.98m after transfer to hidden reserves although it is expected to take some time to realize the full potential of the enlarged operation.

Reflecting the flotation of a majority of Charterhouse Petroleum, profits from oil exploration and production fell from £7.8m to £4.9m.

LOW & BONAR

Shares plunge

Shares in Low & Bonar, the Dundee-based international engineering, textiles and packaging group, fell 48p yesterday to 133p as the group's directors announced that the year's dividend had been cut by half.

Recommending a final dividend of only 2.85p gross, taking the year's total to 10p compared with 20.7p gross last time, the directors said the decision was taken because of the immediate prospects for 1982 and the need to continue to support certain capital investment programmes in growth areas.

In the year to last November 30, the group produced pretax profits of £5.1m against £7.63m last time on improved sales of £166.1m compared with £151.6m.

Although group trading came through much stronger in the second half, with profits of £3.4m compared £1.7m in the first half, the improved trading picture in the United Kingdom has not continued this year.

The main problem has been, and continues to be in the United Kingdom operations and particularly the engineering side. The division turned last year's profit of £876,000 into a loss of £386,000.

YORKS CHEMICALS

Doubled losses

Despite a greatly improved second half, Yorkshire Chemicals still doubled losses in the 12 months to December 31 from £859,000 to £1.66m on turnover down to £18.9m from £21.5m.

The company said the improved second half performance was due to an easing of destocking by customers, a more competitive sterling exchange rate and a better balance between production and sales after the return to a normal five-day working week last April.

Although the company is confident of making a recovery it is unlikely significant profits can be expected in the present year.

LATEST RESULTS

Company Int or Fin	Sales £m	Profits £m	Earnings per share	Div pence	Pay date	Year's total
Anvil Pet (I)	0.28(0.19)	0.065a(0.175)	3.4a(2.6)	—(—)	—	—(—)
Appleyard (F)	98.4(116.4)	1.43a(1.67a)	18.9a(22.9a)	—(—)	—	0.1(—)
Bridport-G. (I)	7.47(6.24)	0.038(0.33a)	—(—)	0.99(—)	21/5	—(1.42)
Charterhouse Group (F)	—(—)	22.6(16.1)	7.12(9.64)	3(2.76)	29/5	4.9(4.5)
Edinburgh Secs. (F)	—(—)	0.05ab(0.04)	1.02ab(0.29)	0.1b(0.1)	11/5	0.1b(0.1)
Floyd Oil (I)	31.1(29.8)	0.11(0.2)	—(—)	—(—)	—	—(—)
Freemans (F)	257(229)	13.08(10.6)	12.1(11.2)			
2.25(2)	7/6	5.15(3.7)				
Horizon Travel (F)	96.83(72.57)	13.3(7.36)	31—9(18.09)	4.85(2.73)	—	6(3.54)
Habitat (I)	45.4(37.7)	3.56(2.29)	5.6(4.1)	1.2(—)	27/5	—(2.67)
J. Halstead (I)	9.48(10)	0.61(0.4)	3.56(3.9)	1.2(0.8)	—	—(2.65)
Glynwed (F)	368(356.1)	19.2(16.1)	20.6(19.9)	4.9(4.9)	6/7	7.3(7.3)
Low & Bonar (F)	166(151)	5.09(7.63)	13.6(41.2)	2(9.5)	—	7(14.5)
Montagu Boston Inv (F)	—(—)	0.35(0.24)	—(—)	1.2(1.05)	10/6	1.2(1.05)
Nolton (I)	3.03(2.72)	0.07a(0.01a)	1.8a(9.83a)	—(0.6)	—	—(0.8)
Pifco (I)	—(—)	0.62(0.69)	—(—)	1.7(1.7)	—	—(5.[illegible])
Standard Industrial (I)	3.4(4.12)	0.07a(0.01)	—(—)	—(—)	—	—(—)
Yorks Chem (F)	18.9(21.5)	1.6a(0.85a)	13a(7.3a)	0.5(—)	21/5	0.5(—)

Dividends in this table are shown net of tax on pence per share. Elsewhere in Business News dividends are shown on a gross basis. To establish gross multiply the net dividend by 1.428. Profits are shown pretax and earnings are net. a=Loss. b=Adjusted.



COMMODITIES

COPPER: Higher grade was steady but quiet. — Afternoon. — Higher grade cash. £829.50-30.00: three months £857-57.50. Sales: 3,300 tonnes. Cash standard cathodes. £826-27.00: three months. £853.50-54.00. Sales: 175 tonnes. Morning. — Higher grade cash. £829.50-830.50: three months £857-857.50. Settlement. £830-50. Sales: 6,150 tonnes. Cash standard cathodes. £826.50-£827.00: three months. £853-853.50. Settlement. £827.00. Sales: 1,1750 tonnes.

TIN: Standard tin was steady but quiet. - Afternoon. — Standard cash. £7022-30 a tonne: three months £7240-45. Sales. 155 tonnes. High grade, cash £7022-30: three months £7240-45. Sales. nil tonnes. Morning standard cash £7010-7015: three months £7220-7225 Settlement, £7015. Sales. 910 tonnes. High grade, cash £7010-7015: three months £7220-7225. Settlement £7015. Sales: 10 tonnes. Singapore tin ex-works. $m29.86 a picul.

LEAD: was steady but quiet. — Afternoon. — Cash £329-29.50 per tonne: three months. £339.50-£340.00. Sales. 1,250 tonnes. Morning. — Cash £330-330.50: three months £340.50-341. Settlement £330.50. Sales. 8,200 tonnes.

PLATINUM was at £170.65 ($304.00) a troy ounce.

SILVER was steady — Bullion market (fixing levels). — Spot. 392.80p per troy ounce (United States cents equivalent. 701.00): three months. 405.50p (727.10c): six months: 417.85p (752.70c). one year 444.70p (806.50c). London Metal Exchange. — Afternoon. — Cash: 392.5-93.5p: three months. 405.5-6.0p. Sales. 39 lots of 10,000 troy ounces each. Morning. — Cash. 393-394.0p: three months. 406.2-406.5p. Settlement. 394.0p Sales. 60 lots.

ALUMINIUM was steady but quiet: — Afternoon. — Cash. £551-51.50 per tonne: three months £572.50-73.00. Sales. 1,700 tonnes. Morning. — Cash. £549.50-550.00; three months £572-572.50. Settlement. £550.00 Sales. 4,250 tonnes.

NICKEL was quiet. — Afternoon. — Cash £3060-70 per tonne: three months £3095-3100. Sales. 352 tonnes. Morning. — Cash £3060-3070: three months £3092-3094. Settlement. £3070. Sales: 282 tonnes.

RUBBER (pence per kilo): May 55.40-56.00. Jne 56.40-57.20: Jly-Sep 58.40-58.50. Oct-Dec 59.10-59.20: Jan-Mch 60.60-60.70. Apl-Jne 62.50-62.90: Jly-Sep 64.50-64.70: Oct-Dec 66.10-66.40: Jan-Mch. 67.00-67.90. Sales: two lots at five tonnes each and 430 at 15 tonnes (including one kerb).

COCOA (£ per metric ton). — Mch 992-995. May 1010-1011: Jly 1040-1042: Sep 1069-1070. Dec 1103-1104. Mch 1156-1157: May 1153-1154. Sales: 2,013 lots. including four options. ICCO prices daily (March 26): 81.55c: indicator prices (March 29). 5-day average. 83.26c (United States cents per lb)

SUGAR. — The London daily price of "raws" was £2.00 lower at £146: the "whites" price was £3.00 lower at £163. Futures (per tonne): May 154.85-154.90: Aug 158.35-158.40: Oct 163-35: 163.45 Jan 165.30-166.75: March 173.10-173.25: May 175.65-175.80: Aug 178.50-179.00. Sales: 3,562 lots. ISA Prices (March 26): daily. 10.72c: 15-day average. 11.10c

GRAIN. (The Baltic). WHEAT: Canadian western red spring. US dark northern spring. No 1. 14 per cent £114.75: May £114.50: June £114.00 trans-shipment East Coast sellers. US hard winter. 13½ per cent. unquoted. EEC unquoted. English feed fob: April £117.50: May £119.50: June £121.50 East Coast sellers.

London Grain Futures Market (Gafta). EEC origin.

BARLEY: May £109.60: Sept £102.85: Nov £106.45: January £110.40. Sales: 26 lots.

WHEAT: May £115.90: July £119.20: Sept £107.00: Nov £110.65: January £114.60. Sales 71 lots.

INTERNATIONAL PETROLEUM EXCHANGE ($ US per tonne) — March 262.00-63.00: April 260.00-61.00: May 253.00-53.25: June 252.50-53.00: July 252.50-53.00: August 255.000-57.000: Sept 256.00-58.50: Oct 255.25: Nov 259.25-66.50. Sales: 2,154 lots of 100 tonnes each.

Commonwealth of Australia

Twenty Year 5½% Bonds due May 1, 1985

To the Holders of the above-described Bonds:

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that, pursuant to the provisions of the Bonds of the above-described issue, Morgan Guaranty Trust Company of New York, as Sinking Fund Agent, has drawn by lot for redemption on May 1, 1982, at 100% of the principal amount thereof through operation of the Sinking Fund, $1,150,000 principal amount of said Bonds as follows:

OUTSTANDING COUPON BONDS OF $1,000 BEARING THE DISTINCTIVE NUMBERS ENDING IN ANY OF THE FOLLOWING TWO DIGITS:

12 19 25 27 38 44 48 50 53 58 66 69 78 89 92 93 96

COUPON BONDS BEARING THE FOLLOWING NUMBERS:

72	472	772	1872	5372	8872	9972	13572	13872	16772	18172	19672	22872	24372
172	572	972	3572	6072	8972	10372	13672	14672	17672	18472	20972	22972	24472
272	672	1272	3672	6972	9672	12372	13772	15072	18072	18772	21772	24172	

ALSO THE FOLLOWING REGISTERED BONDS

Bond Number	Principal Amount	Amount Selected for Redemption	Bond Number	Principal Amount	Amount Selected for Redemption
14	$16,000	$ 4,000	87	$50,000	$50,000
66	12,000	3,000	88	50,000	50,000
69	10,000	10,000	89	50,000	50,000
71	10,000	10,000	147	1,000	1,000
85	50,000	50,000	148	1,000	1,000
86	50,000	50,000			

The Bonds bearing the numbers above specified will be redeemed and paid on and after May 1, 1982, at the principal amount thereof, upon presentation and surrender of such Bonds at the option of the holder either (a) at the **Corporate Trust Office of Morgan Guaranty Trust Company of New York, 30 West Broadway, New York, N.Y.**, or (b) subject to applicable laws and regulations, at the main offices of Morgan Guaranty Trust Company of New York in Antwerp, Brussels, Frankfurt (Main), London or Paris, or the Reserve Bank of Australia in London, or Amsterdam-Rotterdam Bank N.V. in The Netherlands or Banque Générale du Luxembourg S.A. in Luxembourg. Payments at the offices referred to in (b) above will be made by check drawn on a bank in New York City, or by a transfer to a United States dollar account maintained with a bank in New York City.

Coupons due November 1, 1982, and subsequent maturing coupons should be attached to coupon bonds being redeemed; coupons maturing on May 1, 1982, should be detached and presented for payment in the usual manner.

From and after such redemption date no interest shall accrue upon or in respect of any such Bonds called for redemption as aforesaid.

COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

March 30, 1982

NOTICE

The following Bonds previously called for redemption have not as yet been presented for payment:

[illegible]

BUSINESS NEWS / FOCUS AND COMMENT

PEOPLE

Rewriting a company's history

Instead of bearing the legend "Established 1789", the latest catalogue issued by artists' colourmen George Rowney and Co. proclaims the firm was established six years earlier. This intriguing re-write of the venerable paint-making company's history results from "underground" research by Tom Rowney, the former chairman and a fifth generation member of the family associated with the company.

As part of a chronicle he is compiling, Mr Rowney, 72, has unearthed from the Guildhall Library evidence indicating that his ancestors, the brothers Thomas and Richard Rowney, were in business at least as early as 1783. An entry in a contemporary Sewer Rate Book shows they paid a levy of 6s8d on premises at 95, Holborn, London.

"One could perhaps have wished for more savoury evidence, but it looks like the plain, unvarnished truth," wryly comments John Tyrrell, a director of Rowney's now part of Morgan Crucible, and based in the more salubrious region of Bracknell, Royal Berkshire.

Putting a foot on Boots' board

Mrs Sally Oppenheim, who resigned as Minister of Consumer Affairs six weeks ago to devote more time to family commitments, has been appointed a non-executive director of the Boots Company. Not only is she a glamorous addition to the board of the Nottingham-based manufacturing and retail chemist group, she is also the first woman to become a main board director in the 150-year history of the company.

Boots declare themselves "delighted", adding that they feel Mrs Oppenheim could play an important advisory role. For her part, the MP for Gloucester is very pleased to be associated with the firm, and hopes to make "a constructive contribution".

Just what Mrs Oppenheim is being paid for this is not being revealed officially, but an educated guess is her reward will be around £10,000 annually.



Sally Oppenheim ... hoping to make a constructive contribution.

Travelling man for retirement

A director of Imperial Chemical Industries who began his career as an 11s-a-week office boy at ICI's Billingham Works retires tomorrow after 45 years' service with the group.

Dr Alan Robertson, an honours degree chemist who held several senior executive posts before joining the ICI board in 1975, has recently travelled up to 200,000 miles-a-year as director responsible for the company's agrochemicals business, its activities in the Pacific and Far East and for its management services.

An energetic 61-year-old, Dr Robertson will continue his broad range of external interests, including chairmanship of the British Nutrition Foundation, council membership of the Pestalozzi Children's Village Trust and membership of the industrial committee of the Church of England Board for Social Responsibility.

Nicholas Cole

NEW APPOINTMENTS

Sir Maurice Hodgson, who retires as chairman of ICI at the end of March, will join the board of Dunlop Holdings as a non-executive director.

Mr Alan T. Fletcher has been appointed managing director of the UK Consumer Products division of Wilkinson Sword Group Ltd.

Mr Alan K. Turner has been made marketing manager of the offshore division of British Shipbuilders.

Mr Robert C. Carnell is the new managing director of Waterlow and Sons Ltd (Radio Times) where he will be responsible for the day-to-day management of the Waterlow Radio Times factories in London and at East Kilbride, Scotland.

Mr C. Alan McLintock has become a senior partner of the London practice of chartered accountants Thomson McLintock & Co.

Mr Hadyn Frame has joined the board of Plessey Airports Ltd as marketing director.

Peter Hill

Bulk carriers — full steam ahead for another shipping crisis

Ten years ago, the oil companies and the large (and not-so-large) shipowners were falling over themselves in the rush to place orders with the world's shipbuilders for tankers to transport crude oil from the Middle Esat to the United States, Europe and Japan.

Even as the first shots were being fired in the 1973 Yom Kippur war and during the subsequent embargo on oil supplies by the Arab oil producers owners went on ordering tander tonnage.

The market collapsed and there has been an enormous surplus since. Morwegian fiords, Scottish lochs and the Greek port of Piraeus are among the final resting places for these idle oil tankers.

The spectacular collapse of the tanker market failed to make the shipowners more cautious—a minor boom three years ago led to another spate of orders making even worse an already overcrowded market.

At present rates large tankers can lose up to £2m on the round trip between Europe and the Arabian Gulf. The influential International Maritime Industries Forum, composed of bankers, shipowners, shipbuilders and oil companies last week warned that about one third of the world's 320 million tonne tanker fleet was surplus to requirements.

It called on the shipbuilding industry to slow down output to avert a disaster for both the yards and the shipping industry.

Governments are unlikely to heed the warning. They carry on handing out largesse in the form of soft loans and subsidies to encourage owners to place orders.

The evidence of recent years suggests that few of any lessons have been learned and as the latest annual report of Lloyd's Register of Shipping (published yesterday) demonstrates, what happened in tankers is now being repeated—albeit on a smaller scale—in the bulk carrier market.

VESSELS COMPLETED
million tons gross

35, 30, 25, 20, 15, 10, 5
ALL SHIPS
OIL TANKERS
BULK CARRIERS
GENERAL CARGO
74 75 76 77 78 79 80 81

At the end of last year the world's shipyards had orders in hand of some 35.3 million tons gross of new merchant ships. This was below the peak levels of the 1970s, but still very high. While the level of orders in the second half of last year was down, indicating a slackening in the order rate which had been building up steadily over the previous 18 months, output (that is, tonnage completed and delivered) rose by three million tons compared with 1980.

More than half of the industry's order book — 19.9m. tons gross, equivalent to 53.4 per cent of the total — is represented by bulk carriers with all but 100,000 tons scheduled to be delivered to owners by 1984. That is an enormous addition to the fleet. It could perhaps be accomodated if the new ships were replacing older, less efficient vessels. But that is not the case.

Most of the world's bulk carrier fleet is modern. Only some 18 million tons gross is more than 15 years old.

"The majority of the new tonnage being completed is not primarily for replacement purposes" said Lloyd's Register. It will be competing for available business. It is difficult to see quite how this tonnage will be efficiently utilised, given the current short term market projections and prevailing low charter rates".

So what has influenced shipowners to switch from tankers to bulk carriers and run the risk of repeating the disaster which overtook the tanker market?

> "The influential International Maritime Industries Forum . . . Called on the shipbuilding industry to slow down output to avert a disaster for both the yards and the shipping industry."

A complicated web of factors has been at work. The world recession has stimulated competition, currency fluctuations have helped make some builders more competitive than others and governments have continued to encourage owners with tempting financial carrots.

Owners have plunged into bulk carrier ordering in anticipation of a significant improvement in world trade and in bulk trades like coal.

We reckon that every bulk carrier over 60,000 tons deadweight is surplus to requirements today and we cannot see the hoped-for growth in the coal trades being able to absorb the tonnage which is due for delivery over the next two years", says one leasing dry cargo shipbroker who believes the shipowners have badly miscalculated.

That assessment is shared by Lambert Brothers, the shipbroking arm of merchant bankers Hill Samuel, which in a report published at the weekend warned that most shipowners were facing their tightest squeeze in a decade, barely able to cover operating costs with charter fees let alone make loan repayments.

Dennis Stonebridge, of H. P. Drewry (Shipping Consultants) underlines the crazy arithmetic of the bulk carrier business by citing the example of a Panamax bulker (roughly 60,000-70,000 tons dwt.) regarded as a handy size workhorse and able to navigate the Panama Canal.

In the present market, the ship would command a rate of about $5,800 (£3,210) a day for nine to twelve-month time charter. But Mr Stonebridge reckons that an owner would need about $10,000 a day to cover his capital charges and a further $2,500 to cover his operating costs.

On the spot market, bulkers have been shipping coal from the united States to Europe at a freight rate of $7.50 per tonne per month; for grain cargoes, say from the United States to Holland, recent rates have been in the range $8.20-$8.25 compared with rates of $18 per tonne a year ago during one of the unpredictable freight market "bubbles".

"Rates of this kind are simply disastrous and even the low cost owners in the Far East must be getting very worried," says Stonebridge.

Owners seem quite unable to read the signs correctly.

Against the background of a reasonably buoyant freight market in 1980, they reinvested in bulk carrier tonnage ships being relatively inexpensive items of floating real estate thanks to large subsidies doled out by indulgent governments to their shipbuilders.

One of the key factors which led to owners moving into bulk carrier tonnage was the prospect of a rapid increase in the development of world trade in coal

But the explosion in international coal trade has not been as rapid as many forecasters anticipated and many of the planned port handling facilities are running well behind schedule. Canada, Australia, Colombia and China are among the countries which have announced plans to develop their coal exports over the next few years but, as Lloyd's Shipping Economist stated last month: "Whether these will materialize or not remains to be seen."

Despite the slower-than-expected growth in the volume of coal being moved by sea, and the effects of the recession on the demand for other raw materials traditionally moved by sea, owners have continued to place orders for bulk carrier tonnage. During February, orders were received by yards in Britain, South Korea and Japan, for 16 bulk carriers totalling 490,000 tons dwt.

There are tentative signs that a handful of owners are beginning to heed the warning signals. Brokers report that some owners are seeking to reschedule delivery of their ships (rather than make heavy payments for cancellation) in the hope that by the time their ships are delivered, trading prospects will have recovered.

Such a move requires the agreement of the owners' bankers who have become heavily exposed in the bulk carrier buying boom. But are the owners and their bankers too late? Doubts continue over whether the market will ever be able to absorb the growing overhang of tonnage in the bulk carrier sector.

North European owners have felt the draught not only from the surplus which has developed but also from the high operating costs which they have been obliged to incur vis-a-vis their aggressive Greek, and more recently Far Eastern competitors. Over nine years the North European shipping community has seen its share of bulk carrier tonnage shrink from 31 per cent of the world bulk fleet in 1973 to 16 per cent of a world fleet of 193 million tons dwt. last year.

But the next few months could well prove a watershed for even the shrewd Oriental operators of bulk carrier tonnage as the surplus continues to grow and increasing numbers of owners are forced to negotiate with banks and builders to reschedule loan repayments and extend delivery dates.

When plaster ducks take wing . . .

MARKETING AND ADVERTISING: SURREALISM

By Torin Douglas

Television viewers in London, the Midlands and the south of England have recently been treated to the sight of a man generating an electronic storm in his living room simply by switching on his hi-fi system.

Lights and papers blow in the wind, plaster ducks fly off the walls, a robot whirrs into life and all the while the man sits firmly in his chair in what seems to be the teeth of a howling gale.

Such extraordinary events have become almost commonplace in advertising in recent years as copywriters and art directors jumped on the surrealist bandwagon. Cigarette packets have appeared in every conceivable guise, including a mousetrap, sardine can, skyscraper and hot-air balloon; a glass of Guinness has replaced the gas-holder at the Oval; women have turned into cars; birds have become part of the wallpaper; and almost every product you can think of has been subjected to quick-cutting, brightly coloured commercials turning the expected into the unexpected.

Advertising, like all businesses in which there is a strong creative element, is highly susceptible to fashion. Advertising agencies illustrators, photographers and production companies are all aware of what their peers are doing and once a campaign touches a particular nerve a new style of advertising can quickly emerge.

Five years ago, Benson and Hedges and its advertising agency, Collett Dickenson Pearce, touched just such a nerve with a poster showing the familiar gold pack of Benson and Hedges special filter cigarettes in the entirely unfamiliar setting of a parrot's cage. The only sign of the cage's original occupant was in the form of the parrot's shadow on the wall.

This was not the first advertisement to use surrealist techniques — Dulux, for one, had been using surrealism in its TV commercals — but there is no doubt that it was the Benson and Hedges campaign that made the style fashionable among advertising agencies.

It picked up every conceivable creative award, in a business that sets great store by such honours, and in doing so it attracted a large number of imitators. However, such awards are not judged on the effectiveness of an advertising campaign and there were — and are — many detractors of the surrealist school who maintain that such advertising cannot be good for its products.

Have the surrealist campaigns worked for their advertisers, and if so why? What rationale can there be for an advertisement that seems designed not to inform or persuade the public, but to confuse it?

Surrealism simply means a form of art in which an attempt is made to represent or interpret the phenomena of dreams and similar experiences. According to Alan Waldie, the art director who conceived the original Benson and Hedges campaign, the technique was used simply to make people look at familiar objects in a new and exciting way.

For a cigarette brand this made a great deal of sense, since there are extremely restrictive rules about what advertisers may say about cigarettes. If a company has little to show except a shot of its pack, it might as well make that shot an interesting one.

But why should a company making recording tape decide to use the technique, particularly when the style has been around so long that it is in danger of becoming positively unfashionable?

Maxell Tapes, which is running the storm-in-the-living room commercial, is still researching the effect of the advertising on existing viewers, before rolling the film out to other TV regions this summer.

Its advertising agency, Downton Advertising, is already confident of the campaign's strategy, however. "Some people may say that we've joined a bandwaggon just as it's slowing down, but that doesn't worry me as long as the technique is relevant", says Bruce Burdett, the account director at Downton.

"We needed to convey the fact that Maxell gives very good sound quality, but we did not want to have to go into long-winded technical details in a 30-second television commercial.

"We wanted to use a creative style that differentiated it from other advertising, particularly in the tapes market. We also wanted to position it as a young brand — our target audience was 12-year-olds upwards. Above all, however, we wanted to create awareness of the Maxell name — that was our number one objective."

Maxell is a subsidiary of the Japanese Hitachi company and though it is one of the biggest tape manufacturers in the world, it only has two per cent of the British market.

"The Japanese are prepared to invest heavily in advertising when a company is entering the market in the hope of recouping this investment over the coming years" says Burdett.

Recording tape can be sold on any one of a number of different features — sound quality, long life or price — and Maxell, which is a premium price brand, regarded sound as the most important.

"The problem is that consumers have a very limited vocabulary in this area", says Burdett. "It is very difficult to find words to convey sound quality without getting very technical. We therefore decided to show the effect of the sound coming out of the loudspeakers, in a way that was really over the top."

The basic concept of using sound from the speakers to produce physical effects came from Maxell's American company, but the British commercial takes the idea much further by bringing it into the surreal area.

"Our qualitative research taken during the first three weeks of the campaign shows that people either love it or hate it" says Burdett. "What is interesting, though, is the detail people can recall from the commercial.

"They are well aware of what is happening, and they can remember the robot, the light and even which way the ducks fly away."

What they can also remember is the striking gentleman at the heart of the commercial who to many observers (mostly female) is the best thing about the film. He is, in fact, Peter Murphy, the lead singer of the "new wave" group, Bauhaus.

In addition to the television commercial, Maxell is running the commercial in cinemas in London (which have a predominantly young audience) and there will soon be posters on the London Underground and a limited press campaign.

Whatever the merits of the Maxell commercial, however, the signs are that surrealism will not be with us for very much longer, except perhaps within those campaigns that have made it part of their products' overall image.

These, inevitably, include Benson and Hedges, for whom Collett Dickenson Pearce has managed to maintain a remarkably fresh string of ideas over five years. Whether or not the campaign retains the admiration of advertising's creative people, however, will become clearer next week, when the first of this year's advertising awards are announced.

Maxell's tape — making more than music.

Business Editor

Opec and the seven sisters

It is not to be very pleasant in Mobil Oil and Shell's shoes this week, but for the oil industry as a whole Opec's threats over Nigeria are unlikely to amount to very much. The reason is Opec's very success in getting away from the major oil conmpanies' dominance of supplies.

Ten or twenty years ago when one country acted to help another to stop prices falling — and that was what Opec was founded for — it was against the background of excessive reliance by individual companies on particular countries — BP on Iran, Gulf on Kuwait, Mobil on Saudi Arabia — and an international trade in which nearly two-thirds of oil flows were in the hands of the major oil companies

Now less than half goes through the hands of the majors and most oil producers have cut down drastically the quantity of oil sold to the old concessionaires.

Ironically it has been Nigeria that has led the way towards easing out the majors and selling the bulk of its oil to traders and small conpanies. In recent years it was they who were most willing to pay top prices. Now it is those traders who are walking away from Nigeria, and Saudi Arabia and Kuwaitis can and will still try to put the pressure on the majors. But of the companies operating in Nigeria, only Texico, Mobil and to a lesser extent, Shell, have any contracts with Saudi Arabia.

Saudi Arabia is still too important a long-term oil supplier for companies to ignore it altogether. And, in the case of the Aramco partners (Exxon, Mobil, Texico and Socal), it still provides the bulk of their international supplies. At the margin, therefore, it can probably influence some additional purchases. But what it cannot do is to force feed supplies into a market for which the ultimate demand is not there. The oil market is becoming increasingly fragmented and price sensitive. So long as this is so, the old symbiosis of Opec and the seven sisters cannot work to prevent the market from operating.

Horizon
Travelling well

Horizon Travel's expansion of tour capacity is paying off handsomely. Higher volume, together with a summer load factor of 94 per cent, price increases of 7 per cent and £1m of exchange rate gains, contributed to an 80 per cent jump November.

Profits at Oriom Airways tripled to £3.9m, while tour companies were 50 per cent ahead.

For the present year, winter bookings were at record levels. Prospects for the summer are brighter despite the shadow cast over the industry by the squeeze on disposable incomes. Horizon has held price rises to a competitive 4 per cent and is again guaranteeing no surcharges, at least until June.

Capacity is 20 per cent up and summer bookings, two-thirds taken now, are rumming 15 per cent ahead of this time last year. The Laker collapse should add some 30,000 customers — worth perhaps £500,000 to profits.

Overall, profits this year could show a rise of a further 15 per cent or so. Meanwhile, a dividend lift to 6p a share, raising the yield to 4.6 per cent with the shares at 395p, is accompanied by a one-for-one script issue.

World trade
GATT gloom

Last year was the worst for world trade since 1975, with the volume of exports stagnating following a rise of a mere 1 per cent in 1980.

To some extent the slowdown in the growth of trade is a reflection of the generally more depressed levels of economic activity in industrial nations in recent years. But it is also contributing to that depression, according to Agreements on Tariffs and Trade.

Import protectionism has increased during the last decade. The open-trade system under which nations treated all their trading partners in the same way — without discrimination — has increasingly given way to bilateral agreements covering specific sectors, such as textiles, steel, synthetic fibres

This, in the view of GATT, has slowed up the process of change and adaptation which is necessary if higher levels of economic growth are ever to be resumed.

In its latest summary of the state of international trade, published this morning, Gatt urges policy makers to take a more global view of economic problems, rather than considering them in isolation. Its diagnosis is very different to that of the OECD, which has blamed many of the world's problems on the oil price increases and high interest rates.

The Gatt view is closer to that of Margaret Thatcher, attributing the international economic malaise on excessive government spending and money creation, malfunctioning labour markets and a weakening of incentives for private effort.

Gatt economists are particularly worried that the industrial countries are, in raising their trade barriers against goods from the Third World, failing to consider the link between trade and the international financial system. Provisional estimates suggest that, in the 1979-81 period, the volume of developing countries' exports of manufactured goods to the industrial countries grew at only half the average rate of the 1970s.

Glynwed engineers success . . . Freemans fashions a trend

Excitement below a drill surface

How hard does an engineering company have to try to be rated successful? The answer, looking at Glynwed, seems to be very hard indeed in City eyes once it is no longer a recovery stock, Sally White writes. Even with profits at a record £19.3m against £16.1m, and the dividend (maintained at 7.35p after a final of 4.9p) covered 2½ times on a historic accounting basis and 1.6 times on a CCA basis, the company is not rated an exciting investment prospect.

Analysts are suggesting pretax potential for this year at around £22m; that puts the earnings at 8.5 times compared with a sector average of 10.3 prospectively. In other words, Glynwed is still trailing by 20 per cent of the sector average. The share price has been moving up, ahead of the expected higher profits, to 117½p, a rise of 3½p, against a low of 70½p and just fractionally short of the high. The yield is 8.9p.

While it may be a dull stock on the market, it has accomplished a large amount in reorganising its traditional engineering business.

Suresh Karadia



Fletcher: more work to do on British operations.

Mr Leslie Fletcher, chairman, came to Glynwed 12 years ago from Schroder Wagg, and has been slogging steadily away to cut numbers, modernize products and production processes, and switch a larger percentage of the profit-earning capability of the business overseas.

This year, 1,000 more have been shed, although the changes have not been drastic enough to be shown as an extraordinary item, costing around £1m and being absorbed in the trading profit. While the gearing is still high, with the debt equity ratio at 66 per cent, the interest payments are four times covered.

Both home and overseas sides have shown an improvement in profits, only steel-stockholding lagging.

"We have got to do more work on our United Kingdom companies," Mr Fletcher said. "Whether that is called strategy I do not know — but we are still cleaning up there, and we are still working on developing products." The company is aiming at a 40/60 split between overseas and home trading income. This year arrived at 50/50.

The trading profit break-down on 1981 was: building and consumer products in this country £7.86m against £5.8m; steel and engineering in Britain, £5.35m against £4.9m; overseas household and industrial appliances £9.23m against £8.49m and overseas steel and engineering £2.9m against £1.48m. Steel stockholding and distribution in Britain showed a trading loss of £704,000 against a profit of £1.33m.

Mr Fletcher says that demand for consumer products, as well as building products — such as copper piping — which did well last year, have plateaued so far this year. But it is early days to judge 1982.

Profits in the post

Fortunately for Freemans, clothes wear out. Sales of clothes was one of the strong items for the mail order group in 1981, and helped it achieve profits growth of 12 per cent against government statistics of a 1 per cent rise generally. As Mr Ralph Aldred, managing director, explained customers were in no hurry to buy new clothes in 1979 and 1980, and after that length of time new wardrobes were overdue.

Freemans increased pretax profit of £13.1m, up from £10.6m and raised the divident for the full year from 3.7p to 4.15p, after a final of 2.25p. The shares rose by 2p, leaving the yield at 4p. The rating at that price ws 15½ times, and many analysts are going for slightly less than that for the present year.

"Another major factor in our performance was he increase in agents — we put on 70,000 to bring the number to 600,000 with three or four customers each," said Mr Aldred.

Good though that performances was, it did not reach the heights forecast by some analysts. This was because the drop in sterling in the second half affected margins on imported goods, and interest rates were relatively high compared with the earlier period.

Ironically, while Freeman did well on separates and clothing, it was not able to benefit from the really cold snowy January. By then the spring catalogue was out.

The trend this year shows an improvement in demand, and Freemans says it hopes this pattern will now be maintained.

The group is particularly strong among the younger sectors of the population, with both agents and customers heavily represented in the lower age groups. It does particularly well with fashion clothing.

Backing the agents is the group's nationwide telephone order system Order Line, which by the end of the year accounted for more than 40 per cent of all orders received.

But it is non-clothing that Freemans pick out as doing best so far in 1982 — hi-fi and electricals.

While Freemans's rating is fairly demanding it is hard to compare it with other companies in the sector — although it is the most popular of the shares. Grattan and Empire still have their problems, and Great Universal Stores is a conglomerate. The share is on a high for the year.

INTERNATIONAL



JAPAN

Japan's exports of cars, trucks and buses fell by 10.8 per cent in February from a year before to 472,981 units, continuing a persistent down trend in the face of overseas enonomic stagnation and Japan's export restrictions, the National Automobile Manufacturers' Association said yesterday. Exports of small passenger cars fell by 20.5 per cent from the year-earlier level to 264,495 units in February, but those of mediun-sized passenger cars went up by almost 40 per cent to 41,700 units.

● The Japanese Government announced that it is to hold the export of cars to the US this year to the 1981 level, at 1.68 million vehicles

THAILAND

The Thai Government has signed a preliminary agreement with a consortium which includes foreign involvement to buy natural gas tapped in the Gulf of Thailand.

NEW ZEALAND

The Government is giving Air New Zealand an immediate $NZ50m (about £21.52m) loan to help the airlines through "a period of recovery". The company's is facing an estimated $NZ90m (about £32.75m) loss in the financial year ending tommorow.

NORWAY

Norway's 1981 balance of payment surplus was Kroner 13,800m, up 151 per cent from Kroner 5,500m in 1980. There was an export surplus last year on goods and services of Kroner 26,100m compared with a surplus of Kroner 17,400m the year before.

WEST GERMANY

Volkswagenwerk has raised its car prices in West Germany by an average of 3.9 per cent. The last increase was 2.3 per cent, announced in December. The company said the increases, which apply to cars only, were made necessary by sharply higher steel prices.

AUSTRALIA

Australian iron ore suppliers and Japanese steel mills hae agreed to a further price rise of about 17 per cent for shipments to Tokyo. The Australian firms are seeking their government's approval.

SAUDI ARABIA

Petrokemya, the Arabian petro-chemical company, has signed contracts for the construction and overall management and engineering peocurement of a petrochemical complex valued at more than $9m (about £4.89m).

ARAB EMIRATES

A natural gas supply network for domestic and commercial consumers in the Emirate of Sharjah on the Gulf will be completed by early 1983.

NIGERIA

A contract valued at more than £8m for the design, supply and commissioning of a water injection system for the Meren offshore oilfield in Nigeria has been awarded to Weir Westgarth of Glasgow. Part of the contract will be for pumps valued at about £4m to manufactured in Glasgow by Weir Pumps.

BIDS AND DEALS

Royal Stafford China, the privately owned vitrified ceramics and bone china manufacturer, has been returned to profitability in its first year of trading — since a consortium of businessmen acquired the now merged and streamlined 150-year-old companies, Royal Stafford Bone China and previously quoted John Maddock, from receivers Peat Marwick.

Comfort Hotels International reports that contracts have been exchanged for the disposal of the Heathrow Ambassador Hotel to Mr N. G. Verani, of the Verani Group UK for £1.33m cash.

Pegler-Hattersley anriounce the acquisitions of the whole of the issued share capital of PVF, a private company based in Louisiana. PVF, established in 1966, distributes pipe valves and fittings to the oil and petrochemical industries, primarily in the Gulf coast area of the United States.

Hardanger Properties through two separate deals has acquired a leading development site in Oxford Street, Kidderminster, Worcestershire comprising 1.53 acres. The second deal, which has just been concluded, is acquisition of the EMI Cinema for about £300,000. This site joins a property already owned by Hardanger on which there is planning consent.

OVERSEAS COMPANIES

Brunswick Oil, the Australian exploration group, which had to abandon an earlier rights issue because of the fall in the Australian share market, is coming back with a new cash call on the shareholders. It is now to offer three shares for two at 20 cents plus options (priced at one cent) to subscribe for more shares at 20 cents by June next year. The initial offer will, if successful, bring in more than A$4.5m (£2.60m) with another A$4.5m later if the options are exercised. The cash is wanted mainly to see Brunswick through its share of joint drilling programmes which envisage nine drills this year and 22 next year.

Esso S.A.F., the French subsidiary of the United States Exxon group, announced a net income of FFr242m (£21.41m) for 1981, down from FFr266m for 1980. The French unit's board is proposing an unchanged net dividend of Fr2o per share.

Group turnover for the **Rheinisch-Westeaelisches Elektrizitaetswerk** rose 13.7 per cent to DM11,210m (£2,582.9) in the first six months of the fiscal year started July 1, 1981. The West German power company said that a substantial share of the sales rise was traceable to price increases. The group generated 2.7 per cent more power in the first six months from the like year-earlier period.

Four leading Spanish commercial banks, Hispano Americano, Bilbao, Vizcaya and Central have submitted offers for a nearly 50 per cent shareholding in the industrial bank, Banco Union. Hispano Americano and Bilbao have made the most complete offers. They are now being studied by the Bank of Spain which has te approve any purchase.

WALL STREET

Because of the switch to British summer time we are unable to publish Wall Street closing prices in this edition. The service will resume tomorrow.

Base Lending Rates

ABN Bank	13[illegible]
Barclays	13[illegible]
BCCI	13[illegible]
Consolidated Crds	13[illegible]
C. Hoare & Co	*[illegible]
Lloyds Bank	13[illegible]
Midland Bank	13[illegible]
Nat Westminster	13%
TSB	13%
Williams & Glyn's	13%

* 7 day deposits on sums of: under £10,000 10[illegible] £10,000 up to £50,000 11[illegible] £50,000 and over 11[illegible]



JAPAN

THAILAND

NEW ZEALAND

NORWAY

WEST GERMANY

AUSTRALIA

SAUDI ARABIA

ARAB EMIRATES

NIGERIA

Base Lending Rates

Counter Market

Stock Exchange Prices

Lack of interest

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings Began, March 29. Dealings End, April 15. § Contango Day, April 19. Settlement Day, April 26.

§ Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days.

SHIPPING

1981/82 High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Gross Div pence	Yld %	P/E
400	263	Brit & Com	358	+3	19.3b	5.0	7.5
378	228	Caledonia Inv	361	-2	20.0	5.5	24.1
176	135	Fisher J	163	• -3	3.8	2.3	10.0
42½	27	Jacobs J. I.	37	• -1	3.3	8.9	15.2
130	92½	Ocean Trans	119	-2	12.9	10.5	8.6
164½	95	P & O 'Dfd'	141	+2	11.4	8.1	6.9

MINES

1981/82 High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Gross Div pence	Yld %	P/E
17½	10	Anglo Am Coal	£11¼	+¼	51.6	4.6	..
834	442	Anglo Am Corp	453	-6	58.4	12.9	..
52¼	27	Ang Am Gold	£30⅝	• -1⅝	542	17.7	..
47⁵⁄₁₆	23½	Anglo Am Inv	£23½	-¹⁄₁₆	504	21.4	..
23	16	Anglovaal	£16	-1	167	10.4	.
23½	16	Do 'A'	£16	-1	167	10.4	.
24¹⁵⁄₁₆	9¾	Asarco	£11⅞	+⅛	42.9	3.6	.
843¾	349	Blyvoors	439	-8	108	24.5	.
192	87	Bracken Mines	87	• -5	15.0	17.2	..
34⁵⁄₁₆	12¹³⁄₁₆	Buffelsfontein	£15¹⁄₁₆	-¼	349	23.2	..
350	148	CRA	148	..	..	..	..
281	186	Charter Cons	223	-3	14.8	6.6	..
543	349	Cons Gold Fields	377	-7	35.0	9.3	..
423	210	De Beers 'Dfd'	210	• -8	27.2	13.0	..

BREWERIES AND DISTILLERIES

1981/82 High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Gross Div pence	Yld %	P/E
84	62½	Allied-Lyons	83½	+½	7.1	8.6	8.0
253	184	Bass	227	..	13.5	6.0	7.8
186	101½	Bell A.	186	+2	7.0	3.7	9.7
165	101	Boddingtons	149		5.0b	3.4	13.1
178½	133½	Brown M.	158	+2	9.1b	5.7	9.4
380	172	Bulmer HP Hldgs	380	+10	14.2	3.7	11.5
405	235	Devenish	376	.	12.1	3.2	11.6
235	161	Distillers	178	+1	15.4	8.6	5.4
165	104	Greenall	120	-1	4.9	4.1	10.2
296	230	Greene King	296	+2	9.4	3.2	16.2
83	52	Guinness	78	..	7.0	9.0	8.1
378	293	Hardys & H'sons	368	+2	17.1	4.6	15.6
105	72	Highland	78	+1	3.7	4.8	11.0
199	141	Invergordon	156	-1	5.7	3.7	9.2
61	43	Irish Distillers	48	..	3.4	7.1	5.3
79	56	Marston	72	+1	2.7	3.7	11.6
69	45½	Scot & Newcastle	54	..	6.3	11.6	6.0
[illegible]	23¼	Seagram	£28⁵⁄₁₆	-⁷⁄₁₆	79.1	2.8	5.6
217	123	SA Breweries	174	+1	17.0	9.8	5.5
11[illegible]	48	Tomatin	48	..	..	..	..
184	116	Vaux	134	-1	10.7	8.0	5.8
128	87	Whitbread 'A'	101	+1	6.5	6.5	7.1
128	88	Do B	102	..	6.5	6.4	7.2
122	90	Whitbread Inv	104	+2	6.4	6.1	23.6
252	172	Wolverhampton	192	..	7.9	4.1	11.5

M—N

1981/82 High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Gross Div pence	Yld %	P/E
51	33½	Marley Ltd	43	-1½	3.2	7.5	11.9
37	14½	Marling Ind	35	-½	1.4	4.0	34.5
50	22	Marshall T Lox	48	..	4.0	8.3	4.3
48	21	Do A	44	..	4.0	9.0	3.9
330	178	Martin News	330	..	13.9	4.2	7.1
270	209	Martonair	228	..	10.9	4.8	13.3
74	48	Medminster	64	..	5.3	8.3	6.9
250	140	Menzies J.	233	..	5.6	2.4	11.6
224	138	Metal Box	146	-16	16.5	11.3	12.8
135	100	Metal Bulletin	120	..	7.9	6.6	14.2
52¾	37¼	Metalrax	50	• -1	3.4	6.7	9.8
25	11	Mettoy	11	..	0.1	1.3	..
91	50	Meyer M. L.	66	-2	3.1	4.6	..
93	48	Midland Ind	61	..	3.7	6.1	..

T—Z

1981/82 High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Gross Div pence	Yld %	P/E
28	15	TACE	17	..			
121	85	TSL Therm Synd	107		10.0b	9.3	10.7
25⅝	10¹¹⁄₁₆	Takeda BDR	£19	-1¼	17.6	0.9	20.7
6½	3½	Talbex Grp	4¾				
478	316	Tarmac Ltd	474	..	23.3	4.9	8.1
220	126	Tate & Lyle	200	-2	16.4	8.2	5.0
607	441	Taylor Woodrow	545	..	19.0	3.5	9.7
400	250	Telephone Rent	333	..	14.6	4.4	16.6
71	48½	Tesco	60½	+½	3.8	6.3	6.5
125	64	Textured Jersey	80		7.9	9.8	3.8

Sterling: Spot and Forward

	Market rates (day's range) March 29	Market rates (close) March 29	1 month	3 months
New York	$1.7780-1.7890	$1.7795-1.7805	0.25-0.35c disc	0.88-0.98c disc
Montreal	$2.1900-2.1990	$2.1920-2.1930	0.50-0.60c disc	1.70-1.80c disc
Amsterdam	4.75-4.78fl	4.75½-4.76½fl	2¼-1⅞c prem	6⅝-5⅞c prem
Brussels	80.80-81.40f	81.15-81.25f	12-22c disc	55-70c disc
Copenhagen	14.62-14.71k	14.65½-14.66½k	230-300ore disc	800-955ore disc
Dublin	1.2380-1.2425p	1.2375-1.2385p	60-80p disc	185-205p disc
Frankfurt	4.28½-4.32m	4.29½-4.30½m	1¼-1⅛pf prem	4⅝-4½pf prem
Lisbon	126.00-127.75e	126.90-127.20e	85-235c disc	245-595c disc
Madrid	189.25-190.25p	189.50-189.70p	60-85c disc	195-230c disc
Milan	2350-2360lr	2351-2353lr	27½-31½lr disc	69½-74½lr disc
Oslo	10.88-10.95k	10.89-10.90k	175-260ore disc	550-640ore disc
Paris	11.08½-11.22½f	11.09-11.10f	15¼-19¼c disc	29¼-33¼c disc
Stockholm	10.56-10.62k	10.58½-10.59½k	115-55ore prem	295-235ore prem
Tokyo	438-443y	439-440y	2.50-2.05y prem	7.35-7.00y prem
Vienna	30.10-30.30sch	30.20-30.25sch	13-10gro prem	34-28gro prem
Zurich	3.41½-3.44½f	3.43-3.44f	2⅝-2c prem	6½-6c prem

Effective exchange rate compared to 1975, was 90.9 unchanged.

Money Market Rates

Clearing Banks Base Rate 13%

Discount Mkt Loans%
Overnight: High 13¼ Low 11

Week Fixed: 13⅛-13

Treasury Bills (Dis%)

Buying		Selling	
2 months	12²⁵⁄₃₂	2 months	12¹¹⁄₁₆
3 months	12¹⁷⁄₃₂	3 months	12½

Prime Bank Bills (Dis%) Trades (Dis%)

1 month	13⅛-13¹⁄₁₆	1 month	13⅞
2 months	12⅞-12²⁵⁄₃₂	2 months	13½
3 months	12¾-12¹¹⁄₁₆	3 months	13⅛
6 months	12⅝-12½	6 months	13¹⁄₁₆

Local Authority Bonds

1 month	14½-14¼	7 months	13⅝-13⅛
2 months	14¼-14	8 months	13⅝-13⅛
3 months	14½-13⅞	9 months	13¾-13⅛
4 months	13⅞-13⅜	10 months	13¾-13⅛
5 months	13¾-13½	11 months	13¾-13⅜
6 months	13⅝-13⅛	12 months	13⅝-13⅛

Secondary Mkt. ECD Rates (%)

1 month	13²⁵⁄₃₂-13¹⁹⁄₃₂	6 months	13⅝-13½
3 months	13⅝-13½	12 months	13¹¹⁄₁₆-13¹⁹⁄₃₂

Local Authority Market (%)

2 days	13¼	3 months	13¾
7 days	13¼	6 months	13⅛
1 month	13¼	1 year	13¼

Interbank Market (%)

Overnight: Open 13¼-13⅛ Close 8

1 week	13¼-13⅛	6 months	13¼-13⅛
1 month	13¾-13⁹⁄₁₆	9 months	13¼-13⅛
3 months	13¼-13⅛	12 months	13¼-13⅛

First Class Finance Houses (Mkt. Rate%)

3 months 14¼ 6 months 14¼

Finance House Base Rate 15%

Other Markets

Australia	1.6925-1.7075
Bahrain	0.6705-0.6735
Finland	8.2440-8.2840
Greece	109.05-111.05
Hongkong	10.41-10.45
Iran	n.a.
Kuwait	0.5085-0.5115
Malaysia	4.1425-4.1725
Mexico	80.50-82
New Zealand	2.3080-2.3280
Saudi Arabia	6.0820-6.1120
Singapore	3.7745-3.8045
South Africa	1.8805-1.8755

Dollar Spot Rates

* Ireland	1.4340-1.4360
† Canada	1.2316-1.2318
Netherlands	2.6710-2.6740
Belgium	45.53-45.58
Denmark	8.2380-8.2450
West Germany	2.4130-2.4140
Portugal	71.10-71.40
Spain	106.40-106.50
Italy	1319.75-1320.75
Norway	6.1150-6.1250
France	6.23-6.24
Sweden	5.94-5.95
Japan	246.35-247
Austria	16.94-16.96
Switzerland	1.9285-1.9295

* Ireland quoted in US currency
† Canada $1 : US $0.8118-0.812[illegible]

Euro-$ Deposits

(%) calls, 13½-14½; seven days 15⁵⁄₁₆-15³⁄₁₆; one month, 15¼-15; three months, 15⅛-13⅞; six months, 15⁷⁄₁₆-15⁵⁄₁₆.

Gold

Gold fixed: am, $319.50 (an o[illegible]); pm, $318.50 close, $319. Krugerrand (per coin): $[illegible] (£184.5-185.50). Sovereigns (new): $78-79 (£44.30).

RUBBER

1981/82 High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Gross Div pence	Yld %	P/E
127	62	Barlow Hldgs	67	-2	4.3	6.4	
510	330	Castlefield	380		10.0	2.6	..
65	41	Cons Plant	47½	-1	3.4	7.1	..
173	124	Doranakande	124	..	4.3	3.5	..
230	143	Harrisons Malay	143	-3	11.4	8.0	..
91	46	Highlds & Low	69	..	3.0	4.3	..
537½	368¾	Hongkong	475		30.0	6.3	
775	387	Killinghall	387	-38	20.0	5.2	
125	73	Majedie	76	-2	3.9	5.2	

TEA

1981/82 High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Gross Div pence	Yld %	P/E
230	178	Assam Frontier	225	-2	14.3	6.4	
468	415	Camellia Inv	465	• -3	8.6	1.8	
380	239	McLeod Russel	340	-5	11.8	3.5	
153	121	Do 8.4% Cnv Pf	121	-4	12.0	9.9	..
295	255	Moran	292		7.1t	2.4	
128	93	Surmah Valley	128		1.4	1.1	

MISCELLANEOUS

1981/82 High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Gross Div pence	Yld %	P/E
46	27½	Calcutta Elec	43		8.8	20.4	
34½	29	Essex Wtr 3.5%	£33½	..	500	14.9	
34	20	Gt Nthn Tele	£33	..	82.2	2.5	12.6
263	150	Imp Cont Gas	176	-2	11.9	6.7	11.2
156	93	Milford Docks	139	.	0.7	0.5	..
193	122	Nesco Inv	128	.	10.0	7.8	..
35	28½	Sunderlnd Wtr	£33	.	500	15.2	..

• Ex dividend. a Ex all. b Forecast dividend. c Corrected price. e Interim payment passed. f Price at suspension. g Dividend and yield exclude a special payment. h Bid for company. k Pre-merger figures. n Forecast earnings. p Ex capital distribution. r Ex rights. s Ex scrip or share split. t Tax free. y Price adjusted for late dealings. .. No significant data.

RECENT ISSUES

	Closing Price
Amersham International 25p Ord (142)	203+3
Baillie Gifford Japan Trust 25p Ord (100)	73
Dew George 25p Ord	[illegible]
Exchequer 13¼% 'A' 1987 (j)	£56⅞-⅛
Fleet Holdings 20p Ord	22½
Lee Valley Water 9½% Red Pf 1985 (+b)	£12
Leisure Industries 25p Ord (120a)	133
Newmarket Co (1981) Ltd $0.03 (£2.05)	21[illegible]
Oceonics 10p Ord (130a)	[illegible]
Osprey Assets 25p Ord	165-1
Owners Abroad 10p Ord (10a)	[illegible]
Peek Holdings 7p Ord	38¼+½
Speyhawk 10p Ord (115)	[illegible]
Television South West 5p Ord	[illegible]
Treasury 2% Index Linked 1988 (+h)	£49¼-

RIGHTS ISSUES	Latest date of renun	
First Castle Electronic (30†)	May 5	[illegible]
Riley Leisure (29‡)		7 prem
St Georges Group (74‡)	May 6	21 prem

Issue price in parentheses. * Ex dividend. + Issued by tender. ‡ Nil paid. a Unlisted securities market. b £10 paid. f fully paid. g £40 paid. h £[illegible] paid. i £35 paid. j £55 paid. k Issued in units of sixteen shares and £5 nominal loan stock at £9 per unit.

SPORT

RUGBY UNION

World cup plan faces two stumbling blocks

By David Hands

Details of an ambitious plan for a World Cup in Rugby union were announced in London yesterday without its proponents able to offer positive answers to the two main stumbling blocks: the initial acquiescence of the International Board to the proposal and the involvement of South Africa which, in the event of the IB ever sanctioning the plan, would be automatic.

The plan, announced by the chairman of Sports Sponsorship International Limited, Neil Durden-Smith, and his company's managing director, Gideon Lloyd, proposes a championship for 12 countries, to be played in the British Isles in September, 1985. It is suggested that the eight member countries of the IB – England, Scotland, Ireland, Wales, France, New Zealand, South Africa and Australia – would play in four pools with four more countries, invited directly by the board or qualifiers from world regional zones. The second-round matches would take place, based on Twickenham, Cardiff, Lansdowne Road and Murrayfield, with successful teams going through to quarter-finals, semi-finals (to be played on neutral grounds) and a final at Wembley, a venue which would be neutral and which would also allow for a bigger crowd. The date of the final is scheduled for September 29, 1985, the whole tournament taking up 22 days and including 20 matches (allowing for a third place play-off).

The details, however, remain academic; Sports Sponsorship International, after approaches to all eight IB countries, or their representatives, have put together what is admitted in official circles to be an attractive and well-prepared package.

But the major hurdles remain: to win the sanction of the IB requires 75 per cent of the board members' votes and though Mr Durden-Smith expressed the hope that the World Cup proposals would be formally accepted in October, for possible ratification by the IB next March, it is difficult to know where that majority may come from.

"We feel we are 50 per cent of the way there," Mr Durden-Smith said. It is reasonable to assume that South Africa may favour the plan and the president of the French federation, Albert Ferrasse, said over the weekend that though he had long advocated a world cup (on rather different lines), such a championship had met with little enthusiasm from his British colleagues.

As Air Commodore Bob Weighill, secretary of the Rugby Union, said yesterday, the idea of a world cup is far from novel: "We listened and received a document from them [Sports Sponsorship International] and it was very well prepared. But we feel at the present time we would not wish to be involved in world cup rugby," he said.

Political opposition to contact through sport with South Africa is well-known, particularly so in Australia where sporting organizations have been forbidden touring contacts with the republic.

Gosforth backs in England tour

By David Hands

Wasps to beware: Rendall (above) and Melville.

England will take a party as near full strength as possible to North America and Canada in May and June, among them six uncapped players. A squad of 26 was announced yesterday, including David Johnson and Neil McDowell, the Gosforth backs and Steve Holdstock, the Nottingham wing.

Four England backs, Huw Davies, John Horton, Paul Dodge and Mike Slemen are unavailable; a fifth, Marcus Rose, has been sidelined by injury and Mike Perry the England B stand-off, who has been in such good form for Moseley in their cup run recently, is another unavailable because of university examinations.

Johnson, aged 26, therefore comes in as number two to Les Cusworth – the two were in opposition in last season's John Player Cup final – and McDowell, the 24-year-old centre who played for England B against France last November, gets his chance. A direct player, not unlike Tony Bond, McDowell's skills will contract with the more fluid style of Cusworth and the number one centre, Clive Woodward.

Holdstock, a forthright performer, gets his chance ahead of Barry Evans, the 20-year-old Leicester wing, who was also asked about his availability in his first season of senior rugby.

The fourth uncapped back is Nigel Melville, the England B scrum half, while the forwards include Paul Rendall, an unlucky England tourist in Argentina last summer.

The team will be managed by "Budge" Rogers, chairman of selectors, and Davis travels as the coach. The eight-match itinerary includes games against Canada in Vancouver, and the United States in Hartford, Connecticut, but no caps will be awarded so the likes of Tony Swift and Steve Mills will have no chance of adding to the honours gained on tour in Argentina.

BACKS: W H Hare (Leicester), N C Stringer (Wasps), L Cusworth (Leicester), A Swift (Swansea), S Holdstock (Nottingham), C R Woodward (Leicester), N McDowell (Gosforth), A M Bond (Sale), [illegible], D Johnson (Gosforth), S J Smith (Sale, captain), N Melville (Wasps).

FORWARDS: E Smart (Newport), P J Blakeway (Gloucester), G S Pearce (Northampton), P Rendall (Wasps), P J Wheeler (Leicester), S G F Mills (Gloucester), M J Colclough (Angoulême), J. P Sydall (Waterloo), S J Bainbridge (Gosforth), N C Jeavons (Moseley), J Gadd (Gloucester), P J Winterbottom (Headingley), D H Cooke (Harlequins), J P Scott (Cardiff).

FIXTURES: May 24 v Ontario (Toronto), 29 v Canada (Vancouver), June: 2 v Cougars (Seattle), 5 v Pacific Coast (Los Angeles), 9 v Western (Dallas), 13 v Mid-West (Cleveland), 16 v Eastern (New York), 19 v United States (Hartford, Connecticut).

Sevens hit preconceptions for six

By Peter West, Rugby Correspondent, Hongkong, March 29

Hongkong, March 29. — Entrepreneurs far and wide have long contemplated the prospects of a World Cup rugby competition. If the latest ideas for one are to be realized it will first need a volte face in thinking by the international board, which has been consistently opposed to the concept.

Moreover, if such a competition were to be staged in England in 1984 it would also require a radical change in attitude by David Brooks, president of the Rugby Football Union, the prospective hosts, who has told me that he does not think the project has a cat in hells chance of getting off the ground.

The RFU being the parent body of the Hongkong Union, Mr Brooks has been here, accompanied by Mr "Sandy" sanders, chairman of the RFU's overseas liaison committee, to watch the Cathay Pacific Hongkong Bank International Sevens tournament. Any concern they may previously have had that such an event might encourage a chauvinistic, win at all costs approach, must now be wholly allayed.

They have been impressed by the excellent orgainization of the tournament, the marvellous sporting spirit and the evident enjoyment of one and all.

What a happy gathering it has been for rugby's clan, representing 20 nations from every continent of the world except Africa. The atmosphere at the dinner crowning it all was one of a big family in perfect amity.

The Hongkong Union expect to make a profit of £30,000 to put back into the game. They estimate the cost of staging the tournament at £200,000, three-quarters of which is covered by sponsors who rightly have no say in the running of the event. And want none anyway.

It is a pity, however, that the host union has allowed the sponsors, whose generous support fully entitles them to exclusive visual recognition, to go for an embarrassinoverkill. I counted at least 20 banners within camera view. In the long run such exposure will be counter productive in television terms.

The Olympic style parade of the 20 competing nations seemed pleasant and wholly acceptable. But I take a doubtless crusty view of the lap of honour by the winners. The event, and the game itself, can do without that.

The Hongkong Union is talking about increasing the 1983 entry to 24, restructuring the format so as to conclude the pool games by the end of the first day, and giving everybody a chance to participate in cup, plate or spoon competitions on the second.

No invitation was extended to New Zealand after its union endorsed dispatch of an unimpressive provincial side in 1981. But I am sure a good seven chosen by the New Zealand selectors, playing perhaps under a Kiwi rather than an All Black banner, would be welcome visitors next year.

FOOTBALL

St Etienne inspired by return of Platini

St Etienne shook off their recent indifferent form to knock Bordeaux off the top of the French first division.

The reigning champions, with only 10 men, trounced the leaders 5-0 to go second, one point behind Monaco, who beat second-from-bottom Montpellier 1-0.

St Etienne's improvement coincided with the return of their international midfield player Platini. They lost their right-back Janvion, for retaliating, aftr 18 minutes but they were already 3-0 up, Platini having created fine goals for Larios and smashing in a free-kick for the third. Nogues and Rep completed the scoring.

YUGOSLAV: Teteks Tetovo 0, Ted Star Belgrade 3; Radnicki Nis 1, Olimpija Ljubljana 0; Osijek 5, Vardar Skopje 0; Rijeka 3, Zeljeznicar Sarajevo 1; Partizan Belgrade 0, Dinamo Zagreb 0; Vojvodina Novi Sad 0, Velez Mostar 3; Zagreb 1, Buduconost Titograd 1; Sarajevo 1, OFK Beograd 1, Sloboda Tuzla 0, Hajduk Split 1

CZECHOSLOVAK: Dukla Banska Bystrica 1, Sparta Praha 1; Tatran Presov 1, Lokomotiva Kosice 2; Zts Petrzalka 1, Slovan Bratislava 1; Dukla Praha 2, Zbrojovka Brno 0; Inter Bratislava 2, Plastika Nitra 0; Rh Cheb 1, TJ Vitkovice 1; Slavia Praha 1, Spartak Trnava 0; Banik Ostrava 2, Bohemians Praha 0.

BULGARIAN: Trakia 1, Levski-Spartak 2; Slavia (Sofia) 0, Chernomorets (Bourgas) 2; Ceka Septemvriisko Zname 4, Etur 1; Beroe 0, Haskovo 2; Marek 1, Spartak (Pleven) 1; Sliven 1, Belasitsa 0; Botev 1, Lokomotiva (Sofia) 1.

SWISS: Aarau 1, Zurich 1; Basle 0, Servette Geneva 1; Bellinzona 0, Young Boys Berne 0; Bulle 1, Vevey 1; Grasshoppers Zurich 2, Newchatel Xamax 2; Lausanne 1, Sion 0; St Gallen 4, Nordstern 0.

ROMANIAN: Rimnicu Vilcea Chimia 0, Constanta 1; Timisoara Politehnica 2, Bucharest Olnenso 0; Hunedoara Corvinul 5, Turgu Mures Asa 1; Sportul Studentesc 1, Arad UT 0; Cluj Universitatea 3, Craiova Universitatea 1; Tirgoviste CS 2, Petrosani Jiul 3; Bacau 1, Vulcan Progresul 1; Steaua 2, Olt 1; Arges 3, Brasov FCM 0.

SPANISH: Cadiz 0, Real Betis 2; Sporting 1, Athletic Bilbao 3; Castellon 1, Osasuna 1; Barcelona 1, Espanol 3, Racing 1, Valencia 1; Real Sociedad 3, Real Zaragoza 0; Atlético Madrid 1, Hercules 0; Sevilla 4, Real Valladolid 2.

TURKISH: Fenerbahce 0, Adanademirspor 0; Kocaelispor 2, Boluspor 0; Diyarbakirspor 1, Sakaryaspor 1; Gaziantepspor 3, Bursaspor 0; Adanaspor 0, Besiktas 1; Altay 0, Trabzonspor 0; Zonguldakspor 2, Goztepe 0; Ankaragucu 2, Eskisehirspor 0.

ALBANIAN: Abinoti 1, Uitetari 1; Dinamo Tirana 1, Oafletari 0, Vllaznia 3, 24 Maj 0; Glamurtari 2, Besidhja 0; 31 Korriku 1, Partizani 0; Vlesa 0, 17 Nentori 0; Lokomotiva 2, Vomori 1;

HUNGARIAN: Csepel 3, Vasas 0; Budapest Honved 3, Ozd 2; Bekescsaba 2, Szombathely 1; Debrecen 0, Zalaegerszeg 0; Pecs 0, Tatabanya 0; Nyiregyhaza 2, Videoton 1; Diosgyor 0, Ujpest Dozsa 0; Ferencvaros 3, Szeged 2; Raba Eto 4, Volan 2.

WEST GERMAN: Karlsruher SC 1, Fortuna Düsseldorf 0; MSV Duisburg 1, VfL Bochum 0.

PORTUGUESE: Belenenses 1, Boavista 0; Estoril 2, Uniao Leiria 0.

AUSTRIAN: Sturm Graz 1, Lask 2; Voest Linz 1, Admira Wacker 0; SSW Innsbruck 3, Rapid 0; Austria Vienna 3, Gak 0.

FRENCH: Monaco 1, Montpellier 0; Saint Etienne 5, Bordeaux 0; Sochaux, Lyon 1; Paris S.G. 1, Nice 1; Lens 1, Valenciennes 1; Brest 0, Nancy 1; Auxerre 0, Nantes 1; Laval 2, Bastia 0; Metz 4, Tours 2; Strasbourg 3, Lille 0.

DUTCH: AZ 67 Alkmaar 0, Haarlem 1; Roda JC Kerkrade 4, NEC Nijmegen 1; FC Utrecht 2, Feyenoord 1; GA Eagles Deventer 2, Tilburg 1; PSV Eindhoven 1, PEC Zwolle 1; NAC Breda 0, FC Twente Enschede 0; Sparta 4, De Graafschap Doetinchem 0; FC Groningen 2, Ajax 3; FC Den Haag 0, MVV Maastricht 0.

ITALIAN: Avellino 1, Catanzaro 0; Bologna 0, Juventus 0; Genoa 0, Fiorentina 0; Milan 0, Ascoli 0; Roma 3, Internazionale Milan 2; Torino 0, Cesena 0; Udinese 0, Napoli 1.

Leading goalscorers

FIRST DIVISION: K Keegan (Southampton) 24; I Rush (Liverpool) 24; C Regis (West Bromwich) 22; K Cassells (Southampton, 21 for Oxford) 21; A Brazil (Ipswich) 20; T McDermott (Liverpool) 19; K Dalglish (Liverpool) 17; J Wark (Ipswich) 16, I McCulloch (Notts County) 15; M Harford (Birmingham, 14 for Bristol City) 15.

SECOND DIVISION: S Stainrod (QPR) 19; K Houchen (Orient, 19 for Hartlepool) 19; G Bannister (Sheffield Wed) 18; R Moore (Rotherham) 18; S Garner (Blackburn) 16; I Varadi (Newcastle) 16; S White (Luton) 16.

Nicholl for Toronto

Jimmy Nicholl, Manchester United's Northern Ireland defender, is expected to sign for Toronto Blizzards next week. The clubs have agreed terms of around £250,000 for Nicholl, who has just completed two months on loan at Sunderland. The fullback has been unable to get into United's team this season, since they signed John Gidman from Everton.



Steve Kember looks thoughtful, but good news is coming his way.

Uncertainty ended for Steve Kember

Steve Kember has been offered a three year contract as manager of Crystal Palace only days after it seemed he would be dismissed. Mr Kember has been caretaker manager at Selhurst Park for five months. When his future was discussed by the Palace board 10 days ago it was expected that he would go. But Palace announced yesterday that they had offered him a contract to end the uncertainty about his future and enable him to start planning for next season.

Mr Alan Leather, Crystal Palace secretary said: "The board believe that Steve Kember has a full appreciation of the financial difficulties facing football in general and Crystal Palace in particular".

"He has demonstrated considerable ability in winning the respect and trust of the players, which was reflected in the achievement of reaching the FA Cup quarter final", he added.

Steve Foster the Brighton captain received a cut head as well as a leg strain at Birmingham on Saturday but he will lead the side away to Ipswich tomorrow.

Ronnie Allen, the West Bromwich Albion manager, has given young Nicky Cross, striker, a vote of confidence, 24 hours after the player was target of non-stop terrace barracking.

Liverol are likely to be unchanged at home to Birmingham to morrow though Bob Paisley, the manager, defers final selection. He names the same 13-strong squad that he had on duty for Saturday's win over Everton with Trry McDermott, given a clearance by a specialist.

□ Darlington, the fourth division club with acash crisis have been thrown a £50,000 lifeline by their fans. Eight weeks ago, with debts of £95,000, the 99-year-old club was liiking likely to close before the end of the season. But last night they announced a £50,000-or-bust campaign had reached its target.

Mr Leslie Moore, chairman, said: "It is out of this world. I am staggered by the response of the town. It means we can stay in business. We must go forward from here and show the fans we are aiming to bring them success."

□ England have called up Brighton's Andy Ritchie and Coventry's Mark Hateley for the second leg of the Under-21 European championship quarter-final against Poland at West Ham in April 7. Although a below-par squad came away from Warsaw with a 2-1 win on March 17, Ron Greenwood has called back most of the regulares who were then absent on club duty.

ENGLAND UNDER 21: (v Poland, quarter final second leg, at West Ham on April 7). Hesford (Blackpool), Woods (Norwich), Ranson (Manchester City), Thomas (Coventry), Reid (Manchester City), Caton (Manchester City), Smith (Sheffield Wednesday), Mabbutt (Bristol Rovers), Peake (Leicester), Hill (Luton), Bannister (Sheffield Wednesday), Proctor, Mills, Fashanu (all Nottingham Forest), Ritchie (Brighton), Hateley (Coventry).

Old wine in new bottle

The successful award scheme introduced by The Sunday Times in 1972 has been taken over by Coca-Cola Bottles, Peter Ackroyd writes. For the last five years Coca-Cola have sponsored an international held every December at Wembley.

The successful format remains unchanged by the takeover

Today's fixtures

Kick-off 7.30 unless stated.

FIRST DIVISION: Aston Villa v West Bromwich Albion; Ipswich Town v Brighton; Liverpool v Birmingham City; Swansea City v West Ham United.

SECOND DIVISION: Cardiff City v Grimsby Town; Luton Town v Orient (7 45); Shrewsbury Town v Leicester City.

THIRD DIVISION: Huddersfield Town v Newport County.

FOURTH DIVISION: Colchester United v Crewe Alexandra; Scunthorpe United v Stockport County; (7.15): Sheffield United v Bradford City; Wigan Athletic v Blackpool.

SCOTTISH FIRST DIVISION: Queen's Park v Kilmarnock.

SCOTTISH SECOND DIVISION: Clyde v Stirling Albion; Stenhousemuir v Alloa Athletic.

ALLIANCE PREMIER LEAGUE: Barrow v Telford. Cup: Simi-final, second leg: Enfield v Runcorn.

SOUTHERN LEAGUE: Midland: Banbury v Minehead; Barry v Taunton; Bedworth v Witney; Bromsgrove v Gloucester; Milton Keynes v Nuneaton; Redditch v Cheltenham. South: Aylesbury v Salisbury; Basingstoke v Hounslow; Canterbury v Dover; Crawley v Gosport; Dunstable v Tonbridge; Dorchester v Wealdstone; Hastings v Ashford; Hillingdon v Folkestone

NORTHERN PREMIER LEAGUE: Goole v Bangor City; Morecambe v Lancaster. President's Cup: semi-final, second leg: Buxton v Marine.

CENTRAL LEAGUE: Burnley v Aston V.; Coventry v Blackpool (7.0); Preston v Manch City (7.0); Stoke v Manch. Utd (7.0)

FOOTBALL COMBINATION: Birmingham v Southampton (7 0); Chelsea v Bristol R. (2 15)

MIDLAND LEAGUE: Belper v Sutton (6 0); Ilkeston v Alfreton (6 0); Long Eaton v Arnold (6.0); Shepshed v Eastwood (6 0)

IRISH LEAGUE: Distillery v Larne (6.0)

ISTHMIAN LEAGUE: Premier division: Billericay v Tooting; Bishop s Stortford v Hayes; Dulwich Hamlet v Sutton, Hendon v Barking; Hitchin v Walthamstow; Slough v Carshalton, Staines v Harrow Borough, Woking v Bromley.

First division: Epsom v Wokingham, Ware v St Albans

Second division: Corinthian Casuals v Hungerford, Dorking v Southall; Windsor v Barton; Worthing v Eastbourne. Cup Semi-finals, Second leg: Leytonstone and Ilford v Farnborough; Wycombe v Kingstonian.

ATHENIAN LEAGUE: Banstead v Leyton Wingate; Burnham v Marlow (6 15); Redhill v Grays; Uxbridge v Harefield; Haringey Borough v Woodford.

REPRESENTATIVE MATCH: Combined Services v FA XI (at Aldershot)

RUGBY UNION: Exeter v Bridgwater and Albion; Newbridge v Neath (7 00).

RUGBY LEAGUE: Second division: Batley v Doncaster (6.15).

NETBALL: BUSF Group Tournament (at Swansea).

RACE WALKING: London Postal Region Open 9 Km. (at Blackheath, 2 30)

RACKETS: Open Doubles Championship (at Queen's Club)

SQUASH RACKETS: British Open Championships (at Bromley Town SRC)

SWIMMING: BUSF Championships (at Blackpool).

WATER POLO: BUSF Group Tournament (at Blackpool).

HOCKEY: Women's Tournament BUSF Group Championships (at Belfast).

YACHTING

Round world record for Dutchman

By Barry Pickthall

The Flying Dutchman Cornelis van Rietschoten and his international crew aboard their 76ft yacht Flyer crossed the Portsmouth finish line at the end of the Whitbread Round the World race early yesterday morning to set a record time for the voyage.

The Freres designed maxi passed through the Needles channel at 3.30 am. After spending a few tense moments aground after being swept off course by the strong outgoing tide, she was escorted down the Solent on the final 20 miles to the finish line by two Dutch warships and a flotilla of yachts to complete this final 6,100 mile leg of the race from Mar del Plate in the Argentine at 8.47 am.

Flyer completed the 27,000 mile marathon in 120 days 6 hrs, 34 min 14 sec to beat Great Britain II's time set in the previous race four years ago by an impressive 14 day 5 hr, 30 min margin. The yacht also set new passage records on each of the four legs of the race, together with a new noon to noon Whitbread record of 327 miles established while racing through the southern ocean towards Cape Horn.

Her Dutch skipper, who won the handicap prize in the previous race in another yacht of the same name, must now wait until Friday to see if he can win the double this time round. The French 65 foot yacht Charles Heidfieck III skippered by Alain Gabay, which topped the handicap table at the start of this final leg must finish before 4.22 am on April 2 to be assured of her continued handicap lead.

At 6 pm on Sunday when Flyer was passing south of Start Point, 110 miles from the finish, the French yacht was reported to be 729 miles astern and must now average 8 knots, over the final distance to be assured of victory.

Kriter IX, another leading French yacht in this strong fleet skippered by Andre Viant, which was lying in second place to Charles Heidsieck on handicap at Mar del Plata is now more tha 90 miles behind her rival and looks unlikely to make up this lost ground.

The 68ft Ceramco New Zealand skippered by Peter Blake which was expected to cross the Portsmouth finish line around midnight last night was thought likely to beat Flyer's handicap time for the third successive time on this race. Had she not lost her mast on the first 7,000-mile leg between Portsmouth and Cape Town would undoubtedly have been a very stron challenger for the handicap crown.

To 56-year-old Cornelis van Rietschten, marathon yacht racing remains the ultimate challenge, pitting man against the elements as much as his fellow competitors. The continued success of this amateur against hardened professionals can be put down to his meticulous attention to detail and thorough planning.

ROUND-UP

Mercy girl shows the way

Sarah Parker stopped off in West Berlin on a mercy mission to Poland and won the women's modern pentathlon international there at the weekend, Michael Coleman writes. In second place was Sabine Krapf, the West German champion.

Miss Parker, from Crawley, won three of the contests (riding, swimming and fencing) and shared first place in the shooting. Her total of 5,124 points put her well ahead of Miss Krapf's 4,872. Julia Kendal, from Southend, was third with 4,587. Both girls had driven from London with baby clothes and other infant needs for the Polish champion Anna Bajan.

Janet Savage, the national champion, has retired because of the withdrawal of her Sports Aid Foundation grant.



Miss Parker: won three events.

BOWLS

Holders stay on course

The Hartlepool team who won the fours event in last year's English Indoor Bowling championships progresssed to the second round when this year's championships, sponsored by Lombard North Central, began at Rugby yesterday, Gordon Allan writes.

Mal Hughes last year's skip, is in Australia but Brian Redgrave guided his team through with a 19-18 victory over a four from the Kent club Cyphers. Hartlepool trailed for much of the time but scored a 5 at the 17th end to go two shots ahesd. They led by three at the start of the last end, where they managed to restrict Cyphers to a couple.

Other favoured teams to win were Wey Vally, of Guildford, skipped by Alan Windsor, who is England's singles representative in the Commonwealth Games, and Leicester Skipped by John Kilyon. Wey Valley beat Atherley of Southampton 29-20, cutting them down to three shots over the last eight ends, and Leicester beat Stour f Ashford, Kent 23-19. Stour made a noteable recovery from 18-10 down to lead 19-18 with two ends left. Then Leicester pulled themselves together and the match out of the fire.

Cyril Morgan's rink from the Wembley club Century were taken to an extra end by Lincoln before winning 19-18. The biggest win so far was registered by Cambridge Park of Twickenham, skipped by John Heath, who beat Morlands of Glastonbury, 35-10.

RESULTS: Fours: First round: A Windsor (Wey Valley) 29, C Tancock (Atherley) 20; J Kilyon (Leicester) 23, L Shoobridge (Stour) 19; B Redgrave (Hartlepool) 19, C Markham (Cyphers) 18; M Callagher (Isis) 18, R Marshall (Falcon) 13; B Fernandes (Thamesdown) 18, M Evenden (Stone Lodge) 14; M Stevens (Great Aycliffe) 26, E Fennell (Eccles) 12, R Etheridge (Gloucester) 22, J Bell, (Cumbria) 14, C Morgan (Century) 19, J Stone (Lincoln) 18, R Jones (Desborough) 33, J Wilkins (Preston) 8; D Gilmartin (Plymouth) 24, A Jacox (Rugby) 16, H Dimond (Barking) 21, G Bragg (Exonia) 15; A Wareham (Victory) 23, A Papworth (Bedford) 12; J George (Norfolk and Norwich) 23, F Drury (Victoria) 12; J Heath (Cambridge Park) 35, R Black (Morlands) 10; E Horner (Chesterton) 22, G Diggens (Sudbury) 12, G Sands (Spalding) 24, S Lant (Concordia) 11

TENNIS

Finest hour for Miss Hanika

Sylvia Hanika, of West Germany, ended the monopoly of the important women's events which a handful of players have enjoyed in recent years when she beat Martina Navratilova 1-6, 6-3, 6-4 in the final of the $300,000 indoor circuit championship in New York on Sunday.

Miss Navratilova, who came into the tournament with 24 successive victories behind her, was soundly beaten before a crowd of 15,081 at Madison Square Garden. "It's the biggest success I've had in my career," Miss Hanika said. "In the first set I was pretty nervous, but then I told myself to fight for every point. The pressure was on her all the way, while I had nothing to lose."

Miss Navratilova said: "I don't think she's ever played that well. She hit so many unbelievable winners. She's a very flashy player. She has to be more consistent. But she has all of the shots to be one of the top players."

Victory was worth $100,000 to Miss Hanika while Miss Navratilova collected $52,000.

□ Jimmy Connors is still aiming to regain the No 1 world ranking despite his second successive defeat by Argentina's Gulillermo Vilas on the Volvo Grand Prix circuit.

The 29-year-old American, who lost 6-3, 6-3 in the final in Milan, on Sunday, said: "The year is young and I still can do great things in the season.

I am thinking about regaining the No 1 ranking, but I will also need some rest to ease the pressure", Connors said, after Vilas had beaten him in less than an hour and a half. Currently the world No 2 behind John McEnroe, Connors was overwhelmed by the powerful baseline play of the Argentinian.

□ John Feaver, the British number five, is among the early entries for the Cumberland Club tournament sponsored by British Home Stores, starting at Hampstead, on April 26. The early leading entry in the women's event is the Japanese Federation Cup player Masaka Yanagi.

BOXING

When your inward eye is cut

By Srikumar Sen
Boxing Correspondent

Time is a great healer to be sure. But it yet has to do a satisfactory job on the mental and physical scars of boxers. Ask anyone except Ali: Frazier, Foreman, Norton, Conteh, all the way down to Duran, Stachey, Green and Magri.

We shall see tonight how well time has treated two Britons, Maurice Hope, of Hackney, and Pat Cowdell, of Warley, as they try to relieve two Italians, Luigi Minchillo and Salvatore Melluzzo, of their European light-middle and featherweight titles. We shall see how well the wounds inflicted on Hope by Wilfred Benitez and Cowdell's battle scars stand up to the blows of the Italians.

The old Hope would have had no trouble disposing of Minchillo, who is a light puncher. But the memories of that Benitez right that sprawled Hope for keeps in Las Vegas is something that could cramp his style. That and the fact that his is Hope's first bout in 10 months could weight against him.

If Hope wins, the world could look out for him again as Benitez is almost certain to move up to middleweight to cash in on a bout with Marvin Hagler. Not much is known about Minchillo except that he lost to Duran over 10 rounds on points.

Cowdell, on the other hand, has no psychological barriers to overcome after his world title bout with Salvedore Sanchez, of Mexico, last December. If anything he is on top of the world mentally, for that bout with the tough Mexican was universally acclaimed as having done British boxing proud. "He is the bravest boxer I have ever fought," Sanchez, who has met some, said.

Cowdell's problems are scar tissues. A butt could end it all for the Midlander. When Melluzzo met the former European champion, Roberto Castanon, he was disqualified for butting. That lesson and Cowdell's accurate left hand should discourage the Italian from coming too close to do any damage.

ICE-HOCKEY

Billingham hopes go crashing

By Robert Pryce

Billingham Bombers' challenge for the English National League title ended in blood and bitterness at Durham over the weekend. Four of their players finished in hospital and the game ended in a 5-1 defeat. As Nottingham's hopes had finally disappeared at Blackpool on Saturday, Streatham are the first champions of the revived league, reclaiming a title they last held in 1953.

Billingham began their weekend confidently with a 10-4 win in Sunderland over Crowtree Chiefs (McPartland and Hubbard three goals each) but they were licking their wounds after Durham. Gary Lapping and Bruce Hubbard had face cuts stitched and Inigo Ortiz de Mendibil required a shoulder X-ray.

Duram's principal target appeared to be Ted Phillips, Billingham's high-scoring Canadian wing. In the first period he was brought down by Peter Johnson, in the second he was speared by Paul Smith, and in the third he was elbowed in the face by Roly Barrass. Johnson and Smith were given 10 misconduct penalties and Barrass went off with a major penalty.

"We don't have trouble with any other side," Ian Wharry, the Billingham team manager complained. "It's been pretty bad the last three years, but Sunday was brutal. It's got to the stage where someone is going to get hurt.

As the English League South reached its conclusion, only an unsightly scar in the goals against column is left to remind Southampton Vikings of their early -season problems, when they were losing games, players, and coaches at what appeared to be a critical rate. A 12-2 win over Solihull Barons on Sunday gives them a healthy-looking third position in the final table, and a place in the play-offs against Nottingham.

Results: English National League: Blackpool 9, Nottingham 7; Crowtree 4, Billingham 10; Durham 5, Billingham 1. English League South: Altrincham 6, Richmond 1; Richmond 0, Streatham 5; Southampton 12, Solihull 2. Other games: Ayr 6, Fife 7; Murrayfield 5, Dundee 6; Whitely 10, Glasgow 2

SQUASH RACKETS

Back injury forces Hunt to scratch from Open

By Rex Bellamy

The men's final of the British open championships, sponsored by Audi Cars at Bromley, will not be the match predicted by the seedings and demanded by the dramatic conventions. Geoff Hunt, winner for the past six years, warned the tournament organisers on Sunday evening that he might have to scratch and, yesterday morning, confirmed that he must do so.

In the past fortnight Hunt has consulted three specialists about an injury that first bothered him four years ago. A low vertebra is cracked. He may have had the injury since birth and is unlikely to get rid of it. Recently the area has become inflamed and, in an effort to compensate, Hunt has damaged a hip and a knee. He has been advised to rest and thus reduce the risk of more serious complications.

"It's a reasonably common thing and I have been living with it for a long time," Hunt said yesterday. "Now it has started giving me trouble and the prospects look a bit dicey. I gave myself a show in this one if I could get moving, but now I'll have to think in terms of the world championship in Germany next November".

Hunt first contested the British championships in 1969 and in 12 appearances (13 was indeed an unlucky number) has won the title eight times — a record — and has been runner-up twice. He also held the world championship from its inauguration, in 1976, until Jahangir Khan beat him in last October's final in Toronto.

"Geoff is a great player and a favourite with everybody," Jahangir said yesterday. "now he's 35, and it's very tough for him. But we want somebody like Geoff at the top, somebody from Australia or England. This is bad luck for him." Jahangir has a responsible attitude to his profession.

The thirteenth seed, Ali Aziz, also had to withdraw, because an injured hamstring has yet to mend. Except for these scratchings, the seeds charged through the early matches without much hindrance. Jonathan Leslie, a former winner of the now defunct British open and national amateur championships, emerged from his labours as an executive with a mining company to demonstrate that for three games, but not for five, he could still play at the same level as Abbas Kaoud.

RACKETS

Tonbridge sight treble

Tonbridge are in sight of a triple in the schools championships at Queen's Club, Roy McKelvie writes. Yesterday they landed the colts championship and today they contest two finals, the senior championship, and the Professionals Cup for second pairs. Their only failure in the whole competition has come in the under-15 event, in which they lost to Clifton.

The Tonbridge senior pair, Graham Cowdrey and Adrian Spurling, had virtually no trouble with Malvern's Simon Shenkman and Robert Mason and won their semi-final meeting by 15-1, 15-4, 15-1, 8-15, 15-0. Malvern were handicapped through Shenkman having sprained an ankle in their previous match.

SCHOOLS DOUBLES CHAMPIONSHIP: Semi-final: Radley (J. Male and J. Snow) beat Eton (A. Giddins and M. Brooks) 18-6, 15-0, 15-7, 15-1; Tonbridge (G. Cowdrey and A. Spurling) beat Malvern (S. Shenkman and R. Mason) 15-1, 15-4, 15-1, 8-15, 15-0.

PROFESSIONALS CUP: Semi-final: Harrow (J. Ford and H. Paul) beat Winchester (C. Hall and A. Tessel) 15-6, 15-11, 15-2, 15-11; Tonbridge (T. Shaw and D. Mackellar) beat Malvern (J. van Ooselen and J. Woolhouse) 15-11, 9-15, 15-11, 15-12, 14-18, 6-15, 15-10.

COLTS CHAMPIONSHIP: Final: Tonbridge (R. Owen-Brown and N. J. A. Shaw) beat Harrow (D. Nimmoleingham and D. Dick) 17-14, 14-18, 15-18, 17-14, 8-15, 15-0, 15-7

CRICKET

Rebels are winners in SA, losers elsewhere

Joe Pamensky, president of the South African Cricket Union, admitted in Durban yesterday that the English rebels may have damaged his country's chances of returning to the international sporting arena, the Press Association reports. He also said that the tour's benefit to the game among his countrymen had been enormous.

"Human nature being what it is, what has happened will have angered those people who are opposed to South Africa and made them more determined," he said. "At the sae time awareness of cricket throughout South Africa has never been greater.

He accepted that the political climate virtually ruled out a South African return to international cricket in the immediate future. "But I think if it were left to the people who had the interests of cricket in their hearts some sort of formula could be reached to encourage South African cricket."

The Englishmen completed their tour without a victory when a four-day game against South Africa in Durban ended tamely in a draw.

ENGLISH XI: First innings

*G A Gooch, c Kourie, b le Roux	48
G Boycott, c Jennings, b van der Bijl	31
W Larkins, l-b-w b van der Bijl	39
D L Amiss, c Cook, b van der Bijl	50
R A Woolmer, c Kourie, b Watson	100
P Willey, b Watson	15
† A P E Knott, c Kirsten, b van der Bijl	6
C M Old, c Rice, b van der Bijl	10
J K Lever, not out	4
Extras	8

L B Taylor and M Hendrick did not bat

Total (8 wkts dec) 311

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-67, 2-95, 3-137, 4-217, 5-259, 6-270, 7-301, 8-311

BOWLING: van der Bijl, 40-14-97-5, Watson, 25 2-4-79-2; le Roux, 25-5-71-1, Kourie, 17-3-43-0; Kuiper, 3-1-8-0, Kirsten, 2-1-5-0

SOUTH AFRICA: First innings 181 for 9 dec (A J Kourie 50 not out; L Taylor 5 for 61).

Second innings

S J Cook, not out	60
*B A Richards, ret hurt	17
P N Kirsten, c Knott, b Lever	14
R G Pollock, c Hendrick, b Larkins	12
C E B Rice, not out	39
Extras	11
Total (2 wkts)	143

A P Kuiper, A J Kourie, † R V Jennings, G S le Roux, V A P van der Bijl and W K Watson did not bat.

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-61, 2-81

BOWLING: Taylor, 8-2-23-0; Lever, 16-9-25-1; Old, 6-2-10-0; Hendrick, 12-3-37-0; Larkins, 8-0-24-1; Knott, 1-0-5-0.

Letters, page 13

First win for Sri Lanka

Lahore, Pakistan, March 29. — Sri Lanka gained the first victory of their six-match tour when they decisively beat Pakistan on faster run rate in a one-day challenge of scoring six an over after Pakistan scored 239 for 4 in 40 overs.

The touring side were coasting to an outright victory at 227 for 4 when bad light ended play after 33 overs. The match was decided by the scores after 20 overs at which stage Pakistan were 95 for three and Sri Lanka 126 for two. The decision by Bandula Warnapura, Captain of SRI Lanka, to put Pakistan in after winning the toss looked as though it might be costly. Zaheer Abbas inspired the home country with his second century in consecutive innings against Sri Lanka, hitting 123 and sharing a fourth wicket partnership of 121 with Haroon Rashid, who scored an unbeaten 63.

Sri Lanka, whose success enabled them to level the one-day series 1-1, complete their tour with the third and last limited overs game against Pakistan in Karachi on Wednesday.

SRI LANKA

B Warnapura, c Miandad b Sikander	6
S Wettimuny, c Ashraf Ali b Mudassar	32
R L Dias, c Imran b Mudassar	81
L R D Mendis, b Tahir	52
R S Madugalle, not out	36
R Ranatunga, not out	5
Extras (l-b 7, n-b 2, w 7)	16
Total (4 wickets, 33 overs)	227

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-10, 2-87, 3-160, 4-185

BOWLING: Imran, 5-1-19-0, Sikander, 5-1-15-1, Tahir, 8-0-68-1, Mudassar, 8-0-58-2, Rashid Khan, 7-0-56-0.

PAKISTAN

Mudassar Nazar, b S de Silva	27
Mohsin Khan, run out	6
Zaheer Abbas, c Madugalle b Ratnayake	123
Javed Miandad, run out	1
Haroon Rashid, not out	63
Extras (l-b 2, w 8)	10
Total (four wickets, 40 overs)	239

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-14, 2-88, 3-94, 4-215.

Mansur Akhtar, Ashraf Ali, Sikander Bakht, Tahir Naqqash, Rashid Khan, did not bat

BOWLING: Ratnayake, 8-1-44-1, Ranasinghe, 8-0-33-0, Warnapura, 2-0-21-0, S de Silva, 8-0-49-1, Ranatunga, 8-0-52-0, De Mel, 8-1-30-0.

FOR THE RECORD

Basketball

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION: Indiana Pacers 102, Chicago Bulls 101; Philadelphia 76ers 116, Boston Celtics 98; Los Angeles Lakers 116, Kansas City Kings 111; Houston Rockets 94, Golden State Warriors 92, Seattle Supersonics 109, Portland Trail Blazers 101, New Jersey Nets 113, New York Knicks 106; Washington Bullets 104, Cleveland Cavaliers 101

Golf

MIAMI (Hawaii): Women's Open. Final scores: 286: A Alcott. 287: J Carner. 288: N Lopez-Melton. 283: M Van Hoose. 292: D Caponi, B King. 293: P Bradley, V Tabor, J Washam. 294: C Hill. British score: 299: J Lee Smith.

Rugby Union

KILMARNOCK: Seven-a-sides: Semi-finals: West of Scotland 14, Heriot's FP 10; Kilmarnock 14, Saltires 12. Final: West of Scotland 16, Kilmarnock 12.

Motorcross

VENRAY: (Netherlands): 125cc World Grand Prix: Leading results (on overall performance over two legs): 1, M Velkeneers (Belgium) Yamaha 27pts; 2, E Geboers (Belgium) Suzuki 23, 3, M Rinaldi (Italy) Gilera 20.

SKI JUMPING

PLANICA Yugoslavia: World Cup 70 m hill event: 1, Bremseth (Norway) 260 6 pts; 2, Neuper (Austria) 257.6; 3, Rigoni (Italy) 247.4. Final World Cup individual standings: 1, Kogler (Austria) 188; 2, Neuper (Austria) 174; 3, Bulau (Canada) 150. Final Nations Cup standings: 1, Austria 803 pts; 2, Norway 776; 3, Finland 308.

ICE SKATING

MONTREAL: Professional figure skating event: Men's: 1, R Cousins (GB) 88.6 pts; 2, G McKellar (US) 87.1; 3, T Cranston (Canada) 87.0. Women: 1, H Komkoren (Canada) 88 3 pts; 2, J L Kitching (Canada) and 5 Grigorescu (US) both 83.0.

ICE HOCKEY

NATIONAL LEAGUE: St Louis Blues 8, Chicago Black Hawks 3; Minnesota North Stars 5, Hartford Whalers 2; Pittsburgh Penguins 8, Washinton Capitals 5, Detroit Red Wings 6, Toronto Maple Leafs 4, Philadelphia Flyers 3, New York Rangers 1, Buffalo Sabres 9, Boston Bruins 5, Vancouver Canucks 5, Winnipeg Jets 0; Edmonton Oilers 6, Los Angeles Kings 2

JACA (Spain): World Group C Championship: Denmark 14, South Korea 1. France 8, Spain 0. Final table: 1, Japan 14 pts, 2, Yugoslavia 10; 3, Denmark 9, 4, France 8, 5, Hungary 8; 6, Bulgaria 5, 7, Spain 2, South Korea 0.

HOCKEY

NEW DELHI: Women's International: India 6, West Germany 0.

REAL TENNIS

BROWNING CUP (at Oxford University): Semi-final: J Howell (Moreton Morrell) beat S Ronaldsen (Oxford University) 6-3, 6-4, 1-6, 0-6, 6-1, K King (Queen's Club) beat K Fletcher (Oxford University) 6-3, 6-5, 6-0. Final: King beat Howell 6-3, 3-6, 6-5, 6-3.

TENNIS

MEN'S GRAND PRIX STANDINGS: 1, J Connors (US) 1,030 pts; 2, G Vilas (Argentina) 675; 3, J McEnroe (US) 525; 4, J Kriek (SA) 450; 5, V Gerulaitis (US) 420; 6, J Sadri (US) 360; 7, A Mayer (US) 312; 8, C Hooper (US) 290; 9, Y Noah (France) 262; 10, A Gomez (Ecuador) 247

ATHLETICS

MILAN: Six miles cross-country race. Men: 1, E Tura (Ethiopia) 30min 00sec; 2, A Cova (Italy) 30 02; 3, M McLeod (GB) 30 06. Juniors (7kms): 1, A Lema (Ethiopia) 23 33; 2, Z Gebre (Ethiopia) 23:38; 3, T Mokkonen (Ethiopia) 23:40.

BOSTON: Five Mile Shamrock Road race: T Hunt (GB) 22min 19sec; 2, N Rose (US) 22:25; 3, H Kindsay (US) 22:48.

INTERNATIONAL

JAPAN

THAILAND

NEW ZEALAND

NORWAY

WEST GERMANY

AUSTRALIA

SAUDI ARABIA

ARAB EMIRATES

NIGERIA

Base Lending Rates

Wind and Wuthering scaling the classic heights

By Michael Phillips, Racing Correspondent

It is the ambition of most Flat race trainers to win a classic. The nearest that Henry Candy has come to doing so in the eight years that he has held a licence was in 1980 when Master Willie's whirlwind finish at Epsom snatched second prize in Henbit's Derby.

However, all that could change at Newmarket early in May if the men of *Timeform* have got their sums right. For in their review of last season they gave Candy's colt Wind and Wuthering the accolade of "best two-year old in Europe". Unlike the handicappers of England, Ireland and France who put the colt Green Forest top of the European Free Handicap.

Of course, a lot more has to happen before Wind and Wuthering becomes 37-year-old Candy's first classic winner, at Newmarket on May Day, but at least *Timeform's* high assessment is a start in the right direction. First, he must prove that he has trained on; then he must have the right ground — firm going would be a disadvantage in Candy's opinion — and finally, he must overcome the pretty chronic record of Dewhurst winners in the Guineas in recent years.

Candy is of the opinion that Wind and Wuthering has progressed well since last year and said emphatically "he's in great form at present" when we looked at him in his box yesterday. The acid test will come at Newbury on April 17 when he runs in the Greenham Stakes.

That is an important date for Candy because he also intendes running his good four-year-old Centroline in the John Porter Stakes and the promising three-year-old Mauritzfontein, in a race confined to maidens that afternoon.

My impression of Wind and Wuthering was that he is very forward and right on course. He may not be the most handsome horse in training but he is certainly as hard as nails and exuding rude health. And that is what counts in the Guineas, which comes early in a three-year-old's season.

Unlike pot plants, horses cannot be forced. Nature plays an all important role and as far as Wind and Wuthering is concerned, the key could be found not so much in the fact that he scored twice over seven furlongs at Newmarket in the Autumn, but that he did well early last year, winning at Sandown and Newbury in April and May.

Candy's character — he is a cautious man by nature. "I suppose we may as well run for third or fourth place" was a typical example of his pessimistic approach before the Dewhurst — prevents him from bubbling with confidence. Yet deep down he is pleased with the way that Wind and Wuthering is going at present.

The identity of his big-race jockey will not be known until much nearer the day. Philip Waldron, who rode him last year, is now retained by Esal (Commodities) Ltd and they own another possible Guineas contender in Tender King. But that does not worry Candy unduly. He simply shrugs it aside by saying that if his horse is good enough, there will be a jockey good enough on the day. Indeed, if he wins the Greenham, I imagine that they will be queuing up for the ride.



At full stretch: Wind and Wuthering on the downland gallops.

Apart from Mauritzfontein, Going Going; Girl on a Swing and Miradell are other three-year-olds in the stable worth noting. Mauritzfontein showed promise in both his races last autumn, but none of the other three ran as two-year-olds. Miradell cost her owner, Basil Samuel, 50,000 guineas when she was a yearling; Girl on a Swing, double as much. Both will be nice adddditions to his stud in Hampshire if they measure up to expectations this year.

The John Porter Stakes will tell whether Centroline's future this season lies in the lucrative middle-distance market or whether he is better suited to the less fashionable distance races, as his record towards the end of last year suggested.

Then he looked every inch a "cup" horse by winning successive races over a mile and threequarters at York and Doncaster and two miles at Newmarket. The last of those was the Jockey Club Cup which he turned into a procession. Against that backcloth it must be doubtful whether he will have sufficient speed to hold his own with the best over a mile and a half.

However, speed is one thing that his stable companion Cut Throat is not devoid of and if looks are anything to go by I will be surprised if he does not do well this year. He was desperately unlucky in last year's 2,000 Guineas and later in the season he had a setback in training.

Davies ends Aintree speculation

By Michael Seely

A reported £8m bid for Aintree racecourse by a group of Blackpool businessmen ground to a halt yesterday when racecourse owner Bill Davies said he was not interested.

Davies, and his Walton Commercial group spent the day locked in talks with members of the Jockey Club about the bid.

Afterwards, Mr Davies issued a statement through the Jockey Club stating he was "not interested in any other offers" and would honour the verbal agreement made with the Jockey Club giving them the option to buy Aintree. He "categorically denied" that his group was considering any alternative offer for Aintree.

The Jockey Club is pressing ahead with its appeal to raise £7 million to buy Aintree by November 1, this year and the legal agreement granting the trustees of the appeal the option to buy the course is expected to be signed this week.

A spokesman for the Jockey Club said that once the agreement was signed the appeal would be officially launched.

Grittar, now a clear favourite at 7-1 for the Grand National, had his final gallop before the big day after the last race at Leicester yesterday.

Ridden by Dick Saunders and accompanied by a stable companion, Learned Lady, Grittar covered a mile and three furlongs at half speed. "That will have just put him right," said the 49-year old Saunders. "We had to bring Gittar here because the ground is so firm at home." added the horse's owner, breeder and trainer, Frank Gilman.

Grittar will be bidding to become the first Leicestershire-trained winner of the Grand National since Reynoldstown, who triumphed in both 1935 and 1936. Other National news is that John O'Neill has been offered the mounts on both, Again The Same and *Man Alive*.

During the afternoon Mirabeau established as a live candidate for the European Tote Free Handicap by beating Janndar and Triple Axel decisively in the Burton Overy Stakes.

Geoffrey Wragg was delighted with the winner's performance. "That will have done him a lot of good and all being well Mirabeau will carry his 5lb penalty in the free handicap."

The Newmarket race is also possible target for both Janndar and Tender King. Tender King disappointed John Sutcliffe by dropping out in the last two furlongs to finish last.

Henry Cecil's Match Winner is favourite at 4-1 for the Free Handicap, with the sponsors, who offer Mirabeau at 6-1.

Andretti returns as Reutemann retires

By John Blunsden

Carlos Reutemann's retirement from grand prix racing a few days before his fortieth birthday marks a premature end to his final attempt to win the world championship, which he narrowly lost last year. That the Argentine had the skill and experience to secure the title was never in doubt, only his ability to give of his best when he felt the odds were against him.

Having announced his retirement soon after that final race at Las Vegas last year, where he saw the title slip from his grasp by one point, he was subsequently lured back into the TAG Williams team once Alan Jones, his former team partner and leader, had belatedly confirmed his own retirement.

This time Reutemann was undisputed team leader but in Brazil nine days ago Keke Rosberg, his Finnish No 2, was the team's pace-setter (he finished second to Piquet) while Reutemann himself finished among the catch-fences. It was time to call it a day.

Reutemann's palce for the United States Grand Prix West at Long Beach next Sunday has been taken by Mario Andretti, aged 42, and there will be many who are hoping that his return to the grand prix scene, which he left last winter after two unsuccessful years with Alfa Romeo, will be for more than this one race.

Frank Williams offered Andretti a place in his team last December but by then the American had committed himself to a full season of racing the United States, including Indianapolis, believing that a drive with a top formula one team would not be forthcoming.

It remains to be seen whether the 1978 world champion, who desperately wanted his grand prix career to end on another high note, will be able to dovetail his American race programme with the grand prix one.

GOLF

Watson scuds home with the heron in failing light

From John Ballantine, Hilton Head Island, March 29

There was a President's Putter atmosphere about Tom Watson's victory over Frank Conner at the third extra hole, the 458-yard 18th, of the play-off in the Heritage Classic here in South Carolina. But instead of a freezing Rye it was the Harbour Town links in a chilly breeze; instead of the English Channel it was the wind-whipped, foam-flecked Calibogue Bay and a lone heron scudding home across its marsh.

The light was failing fast. Watson, his *pixie face serene* but stern beneath the same red-and-black woollen ski cap that he wore when he won Jack Nicklaus's 1979 Memorial tournament at *Muirfield Village, Ohio, in* equally bad weather, strode briskly down the fairway. Cer, *portly and round-shouldered,* bounced along behind him like the old tennis professional that he is.

Earlier, after they had tied on 280 and started their "sudden death" duel, Conner had salvaged a par from the sand-waste hazard on the left at the 16th, where Watson missed a five-footer for a quick "kill". At the short 17th it was Conner's turn to miss, from 12 feet, a chance to win his first tournament in eight years. "I thought he had it for sure, and he did, too," Watson said later.

Watson's extra length forced Conner to play first to the distant green, with the shore of the bay on the left and the squat red-and-white lighthouse a good marker at the back. He pulled his two-iron a fraction and his ball ran off the green and down a steep bank, leaving him an awkward pitch.

Watson's three-iron was rifled straight at the flag, his ball pitched a yard from the pin and finished 15ft behind it on the fringe. Conner pitched bravely but just too long. Watson had to ask an official, Wade Cagle, to adjudicate and Conner was still "away" by a foot. He grazed the cup, Watson lagged up to six inches, and it was all over.

It was Watson's 27th victory on the United States circuit in his 12 years as a professional, his second win here (1979), and his second win this year, his other victory over Johnny Miller *last* month at Los Angeles curiously also coming at the third play-off *hole. It brought his total prize* money to $2,696,607, second only to Nicklaus, and his winnings for his year to $146,706.

The harsh weather suited two Britons, who both scored 72, better than most, Peter Oosterhuis winning $4,900 and Nick Faldo $3,372. Faldo's total is now $31,084.

FINAL SCORES: US unless stated 280 T Watson 69, 68, 72, 71. F Conner 71, 66 70, 73. 282, D A Weibring 69, 73, 70, 70. 283 R Shearer (Australia) 69, 71, 71, 72, D Tewell 68 71, 71, 73; R Clampett 70 71, 72 70. 284, E Sneed 74, 69 68 73; C Stadler 69, 70, 71, 74, F Couples 69 68 71, 76. 285, G Morgan 72, 71, 72, 70. 286, G Player (SA) 73, 69, 73, 71; M Donald 64, 75, 76, 71, S Hoch 68, 72, 69 77, J Mudd 72 74, 66, 74. Other foreign scores 287, P Oosterhuis (GB) 74, 70, 71, 72. 288, N Faldo (GB) 69 73 74, 72; 293, B Devlin (Australia) 73, 72, 74, 74, 296, B Langer (WG) 74 71, 75, 76

HORSETRIALS

Four fastest times for the Greens

Lucinda Prior-Palmer Green, who is attempting to win her fifth Whitbread Trophy at Badminton, covered herself with glory at the Frensham Horse Trials near Farnham, Surrey; where she won two of the three advanced sections on Sunday, Pamela Macgregor-Morris writes.

Mrs Green and her husband, David, put up the four fastest times of the day.

Captain Mark Phillips was also competing a fifth victory at Badminton. Richard Meade and Princess Anne, on the Queen's Stevie B, wee also in this very high-class field.

results; Midland Bank Advanced Section D: 1, Lady Mcalpine's William Hicking (Miss R Nicolson) 81; 2, Mrs M Welman' Turbulence (mrs P Alderson) 84; 3, Miss P Schwerdt's Dylan II (85) Advanced Section E 1 Overseas Containers Ltd s Regal Realm (Mrs L Prior-Palmer Green) 63, 2, Team Wadham Stringer's Delphy Kingfisher (Miss C Strachan) 63, 3, British National Insurance's Priceless (Miss V Holgate) 71. Advanced Section F 1, Overseas Containers Ltd's Beagle Bay (Mrs L Prior-Palmer Green) 50; 2, Team Planters Nuts Gemma Jay (Mrs S Benson) 61, 3, Mrs T Holderness-Roddam's Warrior 63

Intermdiate Section A 1, Miss W Spiers' Sant 79; 2, Miss S May's Maple Medina 80, 3, C G Hore's Rainbow Warrior (Miss K Hill) 81 Intermediate Section B 1, Miss E Wales Luck Money 85; 2, Miss S Worth's Welton Samba 86, Section C 1, Lady Colthurst's Jaunty Jaogar (Miss G Colthurst) 79; 2, Miss L Whitehorne s Skipperton 80; 3, Miss W Smith s King Kong 83.

Griffiths beats Davis

Terry Griffiths won the Irish Masters Snooker title for the third year running. His victory by 9-5 in frames against Steve Davis, at Goffs, county Kildare, was his most convincing win over the world champion. Griffiths was three frames down at one stage, recovered to 4-4 and dominated the evening session to take five frames out of six.

VOLLEYBALL

Scots men win title for fifth consecutive year

The strength of volleyball in universities, colleges and polytechnics was emphasized at the weekend, with the British championships being held at three venues, Paul Harrison writes.

In the British Universities Sports Federation events held in Birmingham, the combined Scottish team won the men's title for the fifth year running, beating UAU 3-1 (15-3, 15-7, 3-15, 15-7). In the women's final, UAU defeated the Scots in straight sets, 15-3, 15-0, 15-9.

In Edinburgh, the Scottish men's and womens teams triumphed in the colleges championships. The men of Jordanhill College, Glasgow, won against Crewe and Alsager College in the final 3-1 (15-7, 15-9, 14-16, 15-7), their sixth victory in seven years.

Representing the women, DCPE Sports Conscious (from Dunfermline, won for the 8th time in nine years, beating Bedford College 3-0, (15-7, 15-3, 15-11 in the final.

English clubs monopolised the British Polytechnics championships. Leeds, the holders of the English Volleyball Association Students Cup, beat Newcastle 2-0 to take the double. In the women's competition, Brighton beat Leeds 2-0 in the final. They also are the Students Cup holders.

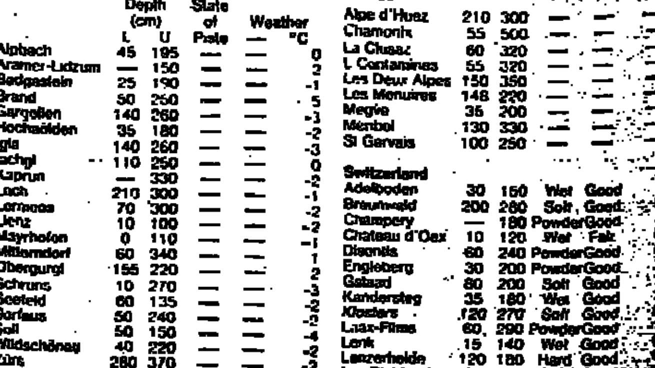
In the Royal Bank National League Nairn Travel beat Emslie's Sports 3-0 on Saturday to become the first Fife team in the First division and their place in the second division is taken by Whitburn, who lost 3-1 to Paisley and are relegated.

In the women's first division, Telford, the champions, lost to Whitburn, 3-2. It was Telford's first League defeat of the season and a boost for Whitburn, who meet them in the Royal Bank Cup Final on May 2.

SKIING CONDITIONS

	Depth (cm) L	Depth (cm) U	Conditions Piste	Conditions Off Piste	Runs to resort	Weather (5 pm)	°C
Andermatt	110	340	Good	Varied	Fair	Cloud	9
Slush on all lower slopes							
Crans-Montana	170	280	Good	Varied	Good	Fine	3
Excellent piste conditions							
Isola 2000	165	195	Good	Heavy	Good	Fine	6
South-facing slopes heavy							
Kitzbühel	80	220	Good	Varied	Good	Fine	-1
Superb piste skiing							
Les Arcs	175	270	Good	Crust	Soft	Fine	10
Good skiing, lower runs soft							
Sauze d'Oulx	20	80	Fair	Heavy	Poor	Fine	3
Good skiing on upper slopes							
Val d'Isère	150	250	Good	Varied	Good	Fine	-2
Excellent piste skiing							
Verbier	100	250	Good	Good	Fair		7
Excellent piste varied off piste							
Wengen	35	170	Good	Spring	Fair	Fair	2
Good skiing on upper slopes							

In the above reports, supplied by representatives of the Ski Club of Great Britain, L refers to lower slopes and U to upper slopes. The following report has been received from a tourist board:



Austria

	Depth (cm) L	Depth (cm) U	State of Piste	Weather	°C
Alpbach	45	195	—	—	0
Aramer-Lidzum	—	150	—	—	2
Badgastein	25	190	—	—	-1
Brand	50	250	—	—	5
Gargellen	140	260	—	—	-3
Hochsölden	35	180	—	—	-2
Igls	140	260	—	—	-3
Ischgl	110	250	—	—	0
Kaprun	—	330	—	—	-2
Loch	210	300	—	—	-1
Lermoos	70	300	—	—	-2
Lienz	10	100	—	—	-2
Mayrhofen	0	110	—	—	-1
Mittersdorf	60	340	—	—	1
Obergurgl	155	220	—	—	2
Schruns	10	270	—	—	-3
Seefeld	60	135	—	—	-2
Serfaus	50	240	—	—	-2
Soll	50	150	—	—	-4
Wildschönau	40	220	—	—	-2
Zürs	280	370	—	—	-2

France

	L	U			
Alpe d'Huez	210	300	—	—	—
Chamonix	55	500	—	—	—
La Clusaz	60	320	—	—	—
L Contamines	55	320	—	—	—
Les Deux Alpes	150	350	—	—	—
Les Menuires	148	220	—	—	—
Megève	35	200	—	—	—
Méribel	130	330	—	—	—
St Gervais	100	250	—	—	—

Switzerland

	L	U			°C
Adelboden	30	150	Wet	Good	1
Braunwald	200	280	Soft	Good	0
Champery	—	180	Powder	Good	3
Chateau d'Oex	10	120	Wet	Fair	0
Disentis	60	240	Powder	Good	0
Engleberg	30	200	Powder	Good	3
Gstaad	80	200	Soft	Good	[illegible]
Kandersteg	35	180	Wet	Good	2
Klosters	120	270	Soft	Good	0
Laax-Flims	60	290	Powder	Good	[illegible]
Lenk	15	140	Wet	Good	0
Lenzerheide	120	180	Hard	Good	[illegible]
Les Diablerets	40	120	Soft	Good	[illegible]

Leicester

2.15 KEYTHORPE STAKES (3-y-o maidens. £1,434: 7f) (18 runners)

1 000000- ADJUSTED (Mrs F Raper) R Hobson 9-0 ... J Mercer 7
2 0- ALUWHITE HABIT (Aluwhite Windows) W Holden 9-0 ... P Gunn 5
4 CAYMAN RUNNER (H Zuderent) R Armstrong 9-0 ... P Tulk 18
5 2- CENTURY CITY (I Allan) L Cumani 9-0 ... L Piggott 3
6 00000-0 CONNECTOR (Miss N Brown) W Marshall 9-0 ... — 17
7 200220- ESCAPISM (A Ward) G Harwood 9-0 ... G Starkey 13
8 000- LISARDA (A Norman-Thorpe) W Guest 9-0 ... J Reid 2
10 42- MUMMYS PLEASURE (A Cull) P Haslam 9-0 ... B Jago 9
12 02- RUBLINK (J Terry) C Nelson 9-0 ... S Cauthen 15
15 0000-40 ST CONAL (E Beeson) E Beeson 9-0 ... P Young 10
16 4- STINGO (K Higson) H Price 9-0 ... B Rouse 16
18 30000- VIDEO KING (Mrs M Moloney) C Brittain 9-0 ... W Carson 4
20 0330- GLENSIDE LADY (M Howard) F Durr 8-11 ... R Sidebottom 5 8
21 0000- HANABI (R Bridgo) W Wightman 8-11 ... B Taylor 11
23 030300 MOAT HOUSE (R Doughty) D Thom 8-11 ... B Crossley 3 12
24 00400- PAPERRAACER (E Kenworthy) D Elsworth 8-11 ... P Eddery 1
25 04000- PORTER (F Carr) E Carter 8-11 ... — 6
26 0- QUEEN OF MACEDON (Mahmoud Fustok) M Albina 8-11 ... A Murray 14

7-4 Century City, 11-4 Mummys Pleasure, 9-2 Escapism, 6 Stingo, 8 Rublink, 12 Queen of Macedon, 16 Video King, 20 others.

2.45 BESCABY STAKES (2-y-o maidens: £966: 5f) (8)

1 GAINFORD (R Proudfoot) C Spares 9-0 ... E Johnson 8
2 JOWOODY (K Parris) J Gilbert 9-0 ... W Wharton 1
3 LAWNSWOOD CUTTER (A Hill) R Hollinshead 9-0 ... S Perks 6
4 MASKELL LAD (Mrs B Simmons) P Cole 9-0 ... S Cauthen 5
5 PALACE BEAU (F Warren) P Ashworth 9-0 ... B Rouse 3
6 PHILPET (Mrs M Morley) T Fairhurst 9-0 ... P Young 2
7 YASU NAFTI (T Rowley) D Sasse 9-0 ... D McKay 4
9 ROSAGORE (H Ford) W Holden 9-0 ... J Mercer 7

3 Philpet, 7-2 Maskell Lad, 9-2 Lawnswood Cutter, 5 Yasu Nafti, 7 Palace Beau, 10 Gainford, 16 others

3.15 KIBWORTH STAKES (3-y-o: £1,500: 1½m) (5)

1 010d- RAJHAAN (Sheikh Mohammed) R Houghton 9-7 ... J Reid 4
3 31- YARD BIRD (Mrs J Bricken) B Hobbs 8-11 ... G Baxter 3
4 210000- LUCKY JOKER (L Hughes) R Hollinshead 8-8 ... — 2
5 00000- SOPHRETTO (J Hardy) J Hardy 8-6 ... P Cook 5
7 00- FACING (Mrs A Dale) D Dale 8-3 ... M Miller 1

11-8 Yard Bird, 13-8 Rajhaan, 11-2 Lucky Joker, 10 Facing, 12 Sophretto.

3.45 HOLWELL HANDICAP (£1,906: 1¼m) (19)

3 220002- RIDGEFIELD (CD) (R Doughty) D Thom 4-9-12 ... G Starkey 10
4 0020- JUST MARTIN (C Nelson) H Price 4-9-11 ... B Rouse 15
8 202030- OLD KNOCKER (CD,B) (T Smith) D Laing 6-9-5 ... M Moseley 7 17
9 21/400- JADE AND DIAMOND (C Freud) D Elsworth 4-9-5 ... L Piggott 5
10 11-0031 MAN IN THE MIDDLE (B) (P Hutson) D Sasse 6-9-3 ... P Eddery 6
11 022320- THE SMALL MIRACLE (G Jones) N Bycroft 4-9-3 ... B Crossley 3 19
12 400122- COMMONTY (D) (J Beausire) J Bethell 4-9-0 ... W Carson 11
14 400000- ROYAL REX (CD) (D Williams) J Tierney 6-8-12 ... S Cauthen 14
15 401040- COAL BUNKER (D) (B Bell) R Hannon 4-8-12 ... P Cook 3
16 220- GRAND UNIT (S Liem) E Eldin 4-8-7 ... M L Thomas 4
17 30400- BRITWELL LAD (P Feerick) P Cole 4-8-6 ... J Reid 13
18 031200- SCOT BENNETT (Mrs C Brittain) C Brittain 4-8-6 ... B Taylor 18
20 00000/- MERE GAMBLER (M Eckley) M Eckley 5-8-3 ... D Dineley 9
22 24004- AL KHASAB (P Barrett) R Hollinshead 5-8-2 ... Paul Eddery 5 16
23 003030- RED ARTIST (P Perrett) J Perrett 6-8-0 ... N Howe 5 7
26 400400- OUR BIRTHDAY (CB) (D Turner) C Benstead 6-7-10 ... P Robinson 12
27 SENOR FRANCESCA (J Kartz) K Bridgwater 5-7-10 ... N Carlisle 5 8
28 0/000- SHUTTLE D'OR (B Eccleston) M Chapman 4-7-9 ... R Hills 5 2
29 000204- CYPRUS GARDEN (J Brooks) M Chapman 4-7-9 ... M Eatwell 7 1

11-4 Man In The Middle, 9-2 Commonty, 11-2 The Small Miracle, 6 Coal Bunker, 7 Just Martin, 10 Jade and Diamond, 14 Ridgefield, 16 Britwell Lad, Scot Bennett, 25 others.

4.15 HARBOROUGH STAKES (3-y-o maiden fillies): £1,387: 1m) (18)

1 00030- ALLYA (Maktom Al Maktoum) Thomson Jones 8-11 ... P Cook 14
3 3- APHRA BEHN (C St. George) H Price 8-11 ... L Piggott 18
4 0- BRUMMENDELLE (R Barnes) D Wintle 8-11 ... E Johnson 15
7 430030- CHEEKY MONKEY (F Kennedy) G Blum 8-11 ... G Duffield 6
8 0- HIGHER AND HIGHER (Mrs M Ryan) D Leslie 8-11 ... M Eatwell 7 17
9 023- HIT THE LINE (A Russell) R Simpson 8-11 ... B Crossley 3 2
11 43- KAREENA (H H. Aga Khan) R Houghton 8-11 ... J Reid 16
12 00- KATRICK (D Toomey) R Smyth 8-11 ... — 10
13 00- KRISTALLINA (Mrs C Kilroy) A Bailey 8-11 ... P Eddery 12
14 02- LADY COX (R Sangster) B Hills 8-11 ... S Cauthen 9
15 00- MAZERAT (D Ancil) D Ancil 8-11 ... Paul Eddery 8
18 000- PERCOL (Mrs A Peers) M Haynes 8-11 ... G Starkey 11
19 PRACSUN (B Hanbury) B Hanbury 8-11 ... K Fretwell 7 13
20 PRIMOLLA (Lord Vestey) D Nicholson 8-11 ... A Murray 1
22 0000- RUBYLINE (T Roberts) K Bridgwater 8-11 ... M Wigham 3
23 000304- SICONDA (J Burgess) R Hollinshead 8-11 ... S Perks 5
24 000- STEADY THE BUFFS (R Stephenson) M McCourt 8-11 ... R Curant 4
25 00000- TWICE LUCKY (Mrs E Guest) W Guest 8-11 ... S Williams 7 7

5-2 Lady Cox, 3 Aphra Behn, 4 Kareena, 6 Hit The Line, 8 Allya, 12 Siconda, 16 Katrick, 20 others.

4.45 A. K. BUTLER HANDICAP (3-y-o: £1,721: 5f) (12)

2 221400- PLEASANT DREAM (D) (Mrs H Jones) Thomson Jones 8-5 ... P Cook 3
4 021- MANCHESTERSKYTRAIN (Sir F Laker) R Smyth 8-13 ... — 15
6 404000- WINDY LAD (D) (D Steele) J Jenkins 8-10 ... P Eddery 9
7 0300- FAST SERVICE (Mrs J Jackson) J Holt 8-5 ... Waldron 1
10 0-00003 SPANISH POINT (T Heard) D Sasse 8-0 ... D McKay 11
11 004040- LETSGOMO (D) (D Cooper) B Richmond 7-13 ... N Carlisle 5 2
12 00100- COUNTACH (F Salman) P Cole 7-13 ... Crossley 3 10
13 02201-2 PARABEMS (D) (J Da Cruz) C N Williams 7-9 ... C Cox 7 8
14 00000- FLAVELLS RECORD (R Taylor) G Fletcher 7-7 ... — 5
15 000024- ETOILE D'OR (B) (J Fletcher) R Hobson 7-7 ... — 4
17 0000- APOLLO DANCER (H McDonald) P Haslam 7-7 ... P Howard 7 12
19 000200- TIPPI (Mrs D Tutt) J Harris 7-7 ... — 7

3 Parabems, 7-2 Pleasant Dream, 9-2 Manchesterskytrain, 6 Spanish Point, 13-2 Fast Service, 8 Windy Lad, 12 Countach, 20 others.

Leicester Selections

By Michael Seely

2.15 Escapism, 2.45 Palace Beau, 3.15 Yard Bird, 3.45 Ridgefield, 4.15 Aphra Behn, 4.45 Parabems.

By Our Newmarket Correspondent

2.15 Century City, 2.45 Rosagore, 3.15 Yard Bird, 3.45 Grand Unit, 4.15 Allya, 4.45 Pleasant Dream.

Ayr

2.0 CASTLEHILL HANDICAP (Apprentices: £1,270: 1¼m) (9 runners)

2 4104- LOUVIERS (D) G Richards 4-9-7 ... J Carroll 3
4 4000- LIFESTYLE (CD) W Francis 4-9-4 ... Vaughan 5
8 0010 GRAF METTERNICH (D) Miss S Hall 7-8-5 ... M Fry 8
11 0003- KRUGERAMA E Weymes 4-8-1 ... Beecroft 6
12 0000- RAGE GLEN Lambert 5-8-0 ... S Donkin 5 2
13 0000- GLEN AIR T Taylor 4-8-0 ... C Coates 7
14 0000- MOUNT MAGIC (D) R Allan 6-7-12 ... Blake 1
16 0040- MALSEEDY Stubbs 4-7-11 ... J Fortune 9
18 0040/ SENSING Naughton 6-7-10 ... D Hogg 5 4

6-4 Louviers, 2 Lifestyle, 9-2 Graf Metternich, 6 Malseedy, 10 Krugerama, 14 others

2.30 AUCHANS STAKES (£951: 1m) (13)

2 0400/ BORDER SPOIL W C Watts 4-9-9 ... Nicholls 10
3 0000- NAIF Lockerbie 4-9-9 ... Birch 3
6 00/ RUMASA T Barnes 4-9-9 ... M Wood 8
7 3400- KELPIE G Richards 4-9-6 ... O Gray 9
9 00- RIBMIS Harman 4-8-6 ... J Lowe 2
10 SCRUMMAGE J Berry 4-8-6 ... Charnock 6
13 04- AMBIANCE M Jarvis 3-8-5 ... Raymond 1
14 0304- AUTUMN DAZE Elsey 3-8-5 ... Ives 4
18 0400- HEROIC JAMES R J Williams 3-8-5 ... Cochrane 11
19 4- IOWA Thornton 3-8-5 ... Bleasdale 13
21 0020- PERPLEX Denys Smith 3-8-5 ... M Fry 7 12
22 00- SANDIFOOT J W Watts 3-8-5 ... Hide 5
23 0004- STAG'S HORN Weymes 3-8-5 ... Dwyer 7

9-4 Ambiance, 7-2 Iowa, 4 Sandifoot, 7 Stag's Horn, 10 Heroic James, Perplex, 12 Autumn Daze, 16 others.

3.0 COODHAM HANDICAP. (£2,498: 1m 5f) (10)

4 3121- STAR BURST (D) W D Francis 5-8-9 ... Vaughan 7 9
6 /0311- MISS DIAWARD Miss S Hall 5-8-4 ... Birch 3
7 0010- FRENCH KNOT (CB) J W Watts 4-8-3 ... A Mercer 10
8 3230- CANOODLE Thornton 4-8-0 ... Bleasdale 4
9 2000- WEDDED BLISS Chapman 6-7-10 ... Nesbitt 5 2
10 0020- TUDORVILLE Stone 4-7-9 ... J Lowe 5
11 4000- POUNENTES (B) G Richards 5-7-7 ... M Fry 7 6
12 0000- QUIET CANNON J Berry 5-7-7 ... Horsfall 7 7
14 BORDER RIVER W C Watts 9-7-7 ... Darley 8
16 400/0- CUTTING COMMENT (B) M James 7-7-7 ... Nicholls 1

2 Miss Diaward, 5-2 Star Burst, 9-2 French Knot, 6 Canoodle, 8 Wedded Bliss, 10 Pounentes, 14 others.

3.30 LAMLASH STAKES (Selling: £876: 6f) (13).

1 13/00- SINCLEAVES McCormack 4-9-9 ... Street 1
2 20/00 BRACKEN GILL Mrs A Bell 4-9-9 ... Wigham 12
3 0400- HOLDALL (D) Asquith 4-9-6 ... Cormorton 5 3
5 0000- PRECIOUS MOMENTS (B) Denys Smith 4-8-13 ... Kelleher 10
6 0004- RESTLESS CAPTAIN G Richards 4-8-13 ... Hide 2
7 3020- SPOILT FOR CHOICE Chapman 4-8-13 ... Nicholls 8
8 /4300- NOBLE PERRY Mrs A Bell 4-8-10 ... Dwyer 13
9 4000- TUTHILL BELLO Stubbs 4-8-10 ... Hawes 6
10 0100- BEAMING LASS (D) J S Wilson 3-8-0 ... M Fry 7 11
14 4000- DO IT NOW J Berry 3-7-12 ... Charnock 4
17 4000- LITTLE VEE J Berry 3-7-12 ... M Wood 5
18 2000- PADINGO Garraton 3-7-12 ... Darley 9
19 0- BELROSE Norton 3-7-9 ... J Lowe 7

2 Restless Captain, 3 Beaming Lass, 4 Tuthill Bello, 6 Spoilt For Choice, 8 Belrose, 10 Precious Moments, 16 others.

4.0 HILLHOUSE STAKES (2-y-o: £1,539: 5f) (7)

2 ARITIMA Ivory 8-11 ... Leason 5
3 HORAGE McCormack 8-11 ... Street 3
4 INVERSALE A Jarvis 8-11 ... J Lowe 2
5 2 PANGULO Fairhurst 8-11 ... Hide 6
7 SAULINGO LAD Stubbs 8-11 ... Hawes 7
8 SOLARES J Berry 8-11 ... Charnock 4
9 LINANHOT A Young 8-8 ... Day 3 1

5-4 Pangulo, 7-2 Solares, 8 Aritima, 10 Horage, 12 Saulingo Lad, 14 Linahot.

4.30 SMITHSTONE HANDICAP (3-y-o: £1,562: 5f) (8)

1 3010- FAST LAD A Jarvis 9-7 ... J Lowe 8
2 0100- PITTER PAT (D) T Fairhurst 9-3 ... Beecroft 7 2
3 4110- SHE'S MY GIRL (CD) Ivory 8-5 ... Leason 5
5 0400- MRS LOVE IT Lockerbie 8-3 ... Birch 1
6 020-0 CENTRAL CARPETS Stubbs 8-2 ... Fortune 7 4
8 0030- COOL WIND (D) J Berry 8-0 ... Charnock 6
9 0200- BLUE SAPPHIRE T Taylor 7-10 ... M Wood 7
10 0000- BROWFOLD K Stone 7-7 ... Darley 3

9-4 She's My Girl, 3 Pitter Pat, 4 Fast Lad, 6 Mrs Love It, 8 Central Carpets, 10 Cool Wind, 16 others.

Ayr Selections

By Michael Seely

2.0 Lifestyle, 2.30 Sandifoot, 3.0 Pounentes, 3.30 Restless Captain, 4.0 Pangulo, 4.30 Browfield.

Kempton Park

Tote: Double 3.30 and 4.30. Treble 3.0, 4.0 and 5.0

2.30 DOWNS CHASE (Selling handicap: £1,362: 2m) (20 runners)

104 0/001 AMBREMONT (CD) Elsworth 9-11-11 ... J Davies 7
105 p3pp SIR TACKS (D) R Hodges 10-11-11 ... T Muggeridge 7
106 021-p SACKVILLE (D) Hicks 10-11-9 ... —
107 p00-0 GALAHAD II (D) A House 9-11-9 ... Stronge
108 4304 SANTOSS J Bradley 9-11-7 ... Liddicoat 7
110 -0010 LUCKY RUNNER Gandolfo 8-11-7 ... M Richards
111 0000 PRINCE MOTACILLA (D) Mrs J Pitman 7-11-6 ... T Williams 7
112 3130 PAULDENAM (D) R Dean 11-11-6 ... —
113 p003 AVONCORE F Yardley 10-11-5 ... B McGarrigle 7
116 243p CUSHENDALL Allingham 8-11-2 ... P Double 7
121 p-fp2 FOURSOME REEL Miss L Bower 7-10-12 ... F Grimes 7
122 3prr SOUL MUSIC (D) J Bridger 12-10-10 ... D Jackson 7
123 -ppu0 VIEWFINDER R Nicholls 12-10-8 ... —
124 404/1 FAST WORKER M Madgwick 9-10-8 ... Madgwick 5
125 0pu4 LE JET (D) Miss L Bower 10-10-8 ... M Carberry 7
127 04/pp JOLLY MELODY W R Williams 9-10-8 ... Millman 5
128 0030 RUB ON G Balding 8-10-8 ... M Lynn
131 0300 REEHAD (B) Hallett 7-10-7 ... C Mann
132 0000 FERNSHAW Miss B Sykes 7-10-7 ... D Hyde 7
133 0-000 DOON SILVER A Davison 8-10-7 ... I Campbell 7

3 Lucky Runner, 4 Sir Tacks, 5 Ambremont, 13-2 Galahad II, 7 Santoss, Pauldenam, 10 Reehad, 12 Sackville, 14 Avoncore, 16 others

3.0 REGIMENTAL CHASE (Novices: £2,058: 2½m) (5)

202 4400 BISHOPS BOW (CD) Turnell 6-11-10 ... Steve Knight
205 010f COOLERIN BOY (CD) F Winter 7-11-5 ... De Haan
207 001p FAULOON (DB) F Walwyn 7-11-5 ... W Smith
213 1/f21 LAST ARGUMENT Gaselee 8-11-0 ... Linley
214 f4f3 RIDAN TOWER Gifford 7-11-0 ... R Rowe

2 Bishops Bow, 9-4 Fauloon, 4 Coolerin Boy, 5 Last Argument, 10 Ridan Tower.

3.30 ALANBROOKE CHASE (Handicap: £3,394: 3m) (7)

301 -1011 ROYAL JUDGEMENT (CD) Gifford 9-12-0 ... R Rowe
302 1111 SCOT LANE (D) M Tate 8-11-6 (5 ex) ... C Smith
303 1240 SWEEPING ALONG (CD) Gifford 9-11-5 ... H Davies
304 3403 SUNSET CRISTO (D) Hawkey 8-11-5 ... C Grant
305 4330 SUGARALLY (CD) G Fairbairn 9-11-1 ... C Tinkler
306 4100 TWO SWALLOWS (CD) Armytage 9-11-0 ... A Webber
308 f410 SKEGBY (D) O Brennan 8-10-7 (5 ex) ... M Brennan 7

7-4 Sunset Cristo, 5-2 Scot Lane, 3 Royal Judgement, 8 Sweeping Along, 14 others.

4.0 ROYAL ARTILLERY GOLD CUP CHASE (£1,521: 3m) (13)

402 3103 NAMPARA (DB) I Dudgeon 11-12-7 ... Capt C Lane 7
403 0-03d O'ER THE BORDER Calver 8-12-7 ... W Wales 7
404 113-4 TEN UP (CD) J Hodges 15-12-7 ... Capt J Hodges 7
405 0p-23 WISBECH LAD Holland-Martin 10-11-13 ... T Holland-Martin 4
406 030/0 BAILADOR E Witts 10-11-9 ... P Curnow
407 030/1 DEISEACH D Elsworth 7-11-9 ... J Mead
408 4-2 DE PLUVINEL G Prest 9-11-9 ... Capt G Prest 7
409 fp00 GOLD CHIEF K Bailey 8-11-9 ... Maj M Wallace 7
410 23-24 HAMMER HEAD P Ledger 9-11-9 ... T Head 7
411 0000/ HEATHERBOURNE Maj C Burke 8-11-9 ... Maj C Burke 7
412 0- HIGHLAND SAUCE D Wales 8-11-9 ... W Wales 7
414 0f/u-0 MR NOBODY Capt Moore 11-11-9 ... T Thomson-Jones
415 u SUMORITA H Wills 8-11-9 ... Capt P Pearn 7

11-4 O'er The Border, 100-30 Ten Up, 5 De Pluvinel, 13-2 Nampara, 8-1 Wisbech Lad, 10 Hammer Head, 12 Deiseach, 14 Bailador, 16 others.

4.30 SPRING CHASE (Handicap: £2,303: 2m) (13)

501 /021- BROADLEAS H Price 8-12-4 ... J Francome
503 2134 RUSTALL (D) F Walwyn 8-11-13 ... K Mooney
504 p3a0 WASHINGTON HEIGHTS (CD) F Walwyn 7-11-9 ... W Smith
505 f2b0 WESTERING HOME (D) Mellor 8-11-6 ... T Thomson-Jones
506 114p LEIRUM (D) Calver 11-11-6 ... C Tinkler
507 2201 WELLFORT (D) M Tate 8-11-4 (4 ex) ... C Smith
508 1132 DURHAM LAD (CD) C Wildman 9-11-2 ... A Webber
509 1u00 ULMAR (D) Gaselee 7-11-1 ... V McKevitt 7
510 1201 WHITE HERON (D) Gnasell 8-11-0 (4 ex) ... R Linley
511 0400 SOUTHERN MOBILE (D) Gifford 9-10-11 ... R Rowe
512 d-C00 ZAGROS Henderson 8-10-7 ... —
513 f143 DEVIL'S BRIG (D) R Shaw 11-10-6 ... P Nicholls 7
515 230f MISTER COOL (D) Barons 8-10-3 ... S May

3 Wellfort, 7-2 Rustall, 5 Broadleas, 6 Westering Home, 7 Washington Heights, 8 Leirum, 10 White Heron, 12 Durham Lad, 16 others.

5.0 ROYAL ARTILLERY UBIQUE OPEN HUNTERS CHASE (Amateurs: £1,502: 2½m) (19)

601 2114 DANCING BRIG (CD) T Clay 11-12-7 ... T Clay 7
602 11- DOUBLE BLUFF F Winter 9-12-7 ... O Sherwood
603 1u22 ROADHEAD (D) Gifford 9-12-7 ... Miss M Wilson 7
604 p-421 BEAU VITE (D) Mrs P Glenn 7-12-3 ... J Chugg 7
605 13pp- DEWY'S QUAY (D) W Reus 9-12-3 ... B Price 7
606 3213 MR MELLORS (D) Mrs A Villar 9-12-3 ... Miss L Gibbon 4
607 0132 RAMBLIX (CD) Lodger 10-12-3 ... T Hood 7
610 0/1 BEAU HAWKE Dudgeon 12-11-13 ... Capt R Webb-Owen 7
611 plpp- BECK'N CALL (D) P Bentall 12-11-13 ... P Bentall 7
612 200-p BIG BEN (D) R Fox 8-11-13 ... D Cantillon 7
613 CITY MONEY Miss A Evans 8-11-13 ... C Newport 7
615 p CRAWFORD CROSS Mrs P Tory 8-11-13 ... M Felton 7
616 p DEVIL'S DANCE Mrs M Babbage 10-11-13 ... N Babbage
617 0p01- DIZZY BOY W J Smith 11-11-13 ... —
618 u-p4p DUCATOON (DB) D Arbuthnot 11-11-13 ... Thomson-Jones
619 232-p FORBIDDEN FRUIT (CD) Mrs J Rainford 12-11-13 ... C Saunders
620 0p/fp KILLEENOGHTY M Andrew 9-11-13 ... J Wyatt 7
621 KRAKAR I Wills 8-11-13 ... C King 4
623 3402- SKRYNE A Donnis 12-11-13 ... A Donniss 7

5-2 Mr Mellors, 11-4 Dancing Brig, 4 Double Bluff, Roadhead, 13-2 Beau Vite, 8 Ramblix, 10 Big Ben, 16 others

Kempton selections

By Michael Seely

2.30 Le Jet. 3.0 Fauloon, 3.30 Scot Lane, 4.0 De Pluvinel, 4.30 Wellfort, 5.0 Mr Mellors.

Leicester results

Going: good

2 15 (2 18) KNIGHTON AUCTION STAKES (2 Y O 5f £1,002)

FLOCKTON GREY gr g by Dragonara Palace — Misippus (F Wiles) 7-12 K Darley (10-1) 1
Acheron ... R Hills (3-1) 2
Leandros ... R Wernham (11-4) 3

TOTE: Win, 94p, places, 30p, 69p, 15p Dual F £5.72. CSF: £10.30 S Wiles at Wakefield. 20l, sh hd My Scotch Arms 2-1 fav Zamina (20-1) 4th 9 ran. NR Up the North

2 45 (2 49) BILLESDON HANDICAP (Selling £701 1m).

STORMING ch g by Red Alert — Winbeam. (Mrs A Dale) 3-8-6 A Murray (4-1) 1.
Merciful Sun. ... W Carson (9-1) 2
Hobournes Lad ... Paul Eddery (14-1) 3

TOTE Win. 76p; places 35p, 32p, 64p Dual F: £2.21. CSF. £4 27. Tricast: £43 69. D Dale at Newmarket. 2l, 6l. Maurice's Tip 7-2 fav Sugar Coated (14-1) 4th. 13 ran. NR Amber Palace.

3.15 (3 19) WELFORD H'CAP (£2,681: 1¼m)

SKI'S DOUBLE, br g Double-U-Jay — Some Poser (G Mayers) 6-8-4 Paul Eddery (4-1 jt fav) 1
The Friend ... P Cook (4-1 jt fav) 2
Zulaika Hopwood ... W Carson (10-1) 3

TOTE: Win: 67p. Places: 21p, 21p, 32p. Dual F: £1.64 CSF. £2.19 R Hollingshead at Upper Longdon. Hd, 6l. Bonny Gold (9-2) 4th. 15 ran.

3.45 (3.47) BURTON OVERY STAKES (3-y-o £2,970 7f)

MIRABEAU, CH C by Sharpen Up — La Mirabelle (J Lilley) 9-1 P Eddery (13-8 fav) 1
Janndar J Reid (12-1) 2
Triple Axel J Matthias (5-2) 3

TOTE: Win: 27p. Dual F: £1.44. CSF: £2.12 H Wragg, at Newcastle. ¾l, 2l. Strath of Orley (25-1) 4th 5 ran

4 15 (4 17) SIMON DE MONTFORT STAKES (3-y-o maidens £1,387 1¼m)

VOYANT ch c by Star Appeal — Vernier (Mrs J de Rothschild) 9-0 G Baxter (4-7 fav) 1
Implication ... G. Starkey (8-1) 2
Doumayna ... J. Reid (7-1) 3

TOTE: Win, 17p places: 12p, 22p, 14p, Dual Forecast: £1.01. CSF 58p. B Hobbs at Newmarket. hd. 4l. Turbulence (33-1) 4th. 17 ran.

4.45 (4.51) LODDINGTON STAKES (3-y-o: £1,398: 6f)

PREVAIL b c by Steel Heart — Davendula Rose. (K Abdulla) 8-11 M Wigham (9-2) 1
Mou-Ferni-Tychi ... G. Starkey (2-1 fav) 2
Smallboy ... L. Piggott (9-4) 3

TOTE: Win 49p places: 13p, 11p, 17p. Dual: 49p. CSF. £1.40. W. Elsey, at Malton. 1½l, 1l. Super Brat (50-1) 4th. 16 ran.

Placepot: £21.90.

Ayr

Going: soft

2 0 (2 01) KIDSNEUK STAKES (2-y-o: 5f: £779)

BLACK GLAZEPTA br c by Mansingh — Kareula (J Mashall) 9-0 J Lowe (5-4 Fav) 1
Aritima ... K Leason (2-1) 2
Escart Bay ... P Kelleher (10-1) 3

[illegible]

Folkestone

Going: soft

1.45 (1.50) HEADCORN STAKES (2yo 5f £834)

AMARONE b c by Realm — Misacre R B B Crossley (6-4 Fav) 1
Another Risk ... W R Swinburn (15-2) 2
She's Misty ... J Mercer (11-2) 3

TOTE: Win, 29p, places 18p, 11p, 16p. Dual F: £1.71 CSF £1.49 R Simpson at Epsom. 7l, ½l Ropitch (11-4) 4th 10 ran

2 15 (2 19) ALKHAM H'CAP (Selling 6f £734)

HEATHEN PRINCE ch g by Sun Prince — Heather Grove B Crossley (9-2 fav) 1
Palm The Ace ... A Mc Glone (25-1) 2
Sky Jump ... M L Thomas (5-1) 3

TOTE Win, £3 35, places, 76p, 82p, 18p, Stregga 17p, Corven 13p, Dual F: £31.42 CSF £14 59, Tricast £60 07 Stregga (7-1) and Carven (6-1) dd-ht 4th 20 ran

2.45 (2 50) KINGSNORTH HANDICAP (£1,324 1¼m)

CRESTED LARK, ch c by Crowned Prince — bird of Dawning 6-9-11 J Mercer (4-1 fav) 1
Azd ... A Bond (12-1) 2
Franciscus ... T Jarvis (11-2) 2

TOTE Win, 45p, places 11p, Azd 39p, Franciscus 40p, 35p Dual F: Crested Lark and Azd £1 34, Crested Lark and Franciscus £1.24, CSF Crested Lark and Azd £2.27, Crested Lark and Franciscus £1 35 TRICAST, Crested Lark, Azd and Franciscus £12 33, Crested Lark, Franciscus and Azd £11.37 M Smyly, at Lambourn ¾l, dead heat. Dutch Princess (7-1) 4th. 16 ran

3 15 (3 18) ALDINGTON HANDICAP (£1,002. 5f)

BALATINA, ch f by Balidar — Toccatina 4-7-10 R Still (20-1) 1
Humble Blue ... R Fox (9-2) 2
Charles Street ... R Burnes (6-1) 3

TOTE: Win, £3 00, Places, 58p, 32p £1.06 Dual F £5.54, CSF £11 21 TRICAST £58 23 H Westbrook, at Newmarket 1l, 2l Covenants Choice 4-1 fav Lord Scrap (6-1) 4th. 13 ran. NR: Warooka

3.45 (3 46) ROCHESTER STAKES (£1,215: 1¼m)

DARINE, b f, by Nonoalco — Be Noble 4-8-11 A Bond (11-8 fav) 1
Jazz Band ... A Clark (11-4) 2
Cashel Bay ... N Dawe (20-1) 3

TOTE: Win, 26p, places, 10p, 32p, £1.14. Dual F: 48p CSF 53p F Durr, at Newmarket. 2½l, ¾l. Slim Boy (33-1) 4th. 8 ran.

4 15 (4 17) SHORNCLIFFE STAKES (Div I: 3-y-o: £810. 1¼m)

THE OWLS, br g, by Pieces of Eight — Keno (9-0) R Curant (13-2) 1
Triple Alliance ... A Clark (11-10 fav) 2
Far Sahara ... B Rouse (5-2) 3

TOTE. Win, 98p; places, 20p, 11p, 18p Dual F: 76p CSF £1.36 M Tompkins, at Newmarket 1½l, 2½l. Radheld (11-1) 4th. 9 ran.

4.45 (4 47) SHORNCLIFFE STAKES (Div II: 3-y-o £808 1¼m)

CHARLIE'S PROSPECT ch c, by Prove Out-Chili 9-0 G Duffield (6-4 fav) 1
Alex Choice ... P Young (7-2) 2
Skytrain Jetset ... B Rouse (4-1) 3

TOTE: Win, 44p, places, 14p, 49p, 22p. Dual F 63p, CSF: 70p, G Pritchard-Gordon, at Newmarket 2l, 1l. Golden Laddie (6-1) 4th. 9 ran

PLACEPOT: £136.95.

STATE OF GOING (official). Tuesday Ayr— good to soft; Leicester: good to soft, Kempton:— good; Wolverhampton.— good to firm. Tomorrow, Catterick — good; Huntingdon:— Chase, good; Hurdle, good to soft; Plumpton:— good.

Hexham

2 30 1, Mr Pongee (25-1); 2, Malcolms Pride (12-1) 3, Leam Lord (12-1), 4, Faldor (10-1) 25 ran

3 0 1, Miss Wood (3-1), 2, Spring Chancellor (11-2); 3, Lord Provost (9-4 Fav). 8 ran.

3 30 1, Wild Lone (11-10 Fav); 2, Silver Leo (20-1); 3, Palm Cross (6-1). 15 ran. NR Ballroom

4 0 1, Solar Bee (7-1), 2, Royal Nugget (12-1); 3 Tallulah (4-1); Granger 6-4 fav 13 ran NR Indian Emporor

4 30 1, Young Driver (3-1 jt Fav), 2, Derek s Bay (12-1); 3, Under-Rated (3-1 jt Fav), 19 ran

5 0 1, Royal Minstrel (7-2), 2, Chetel (3-4 Fav), 3 Liberty Bodice (10-1), 15 ran NR, Kirkby Lad

Wolverhampton

2.15 MARSTON HURDLE (Div 1: novices. £345: 2m) (20 runners)

1 310 FROZEN PRINCE (D) 6-11-10 Mr Twiston-Davies 4
5 0-0 BALLYFREE 5-11-0 ... McCourt
6 00 BORDER SECRET 5-11-0 ... —
7 420 CELTIC BREW 5-11-0 ... Scudamore
9 -0 FAIR DUEL 5-11-0 ... Smith Eccles
11 0 FLAT NOSE 6-11-0 ... R F Davies
12 400 GIN GAME 5-11-0 ... Keightley 4
18 /000 POLAR ICE 6-11-0 ... Fisher 7
19 -00u ROELLA 8-11-0 ... Brookes
21 p0 SMITE HILL 5-11-0 ... Mr Walton 4
22 0 SOMAY 5-11-0 ... P Hobbs
23 00-0 TAF 5-11-0 ... —
25 001 FLYING DREAMER 4-10-13 ... C Brown
31 000 OPAL LADY 4-10-3 ... G Davies 4
32 000 PONTOON 4-10-3 ... Nuttall 7
33 0 ROCHE GIRL 4-10-3 ... Mr Holt 4
35 120 SPOTSYLVANIA 4-10-3 ... Seward 4
37 STOWMARKET 4-10-3 ... Brazier 7
38 000 TENNIS TRACK 4-10-3 ... Charles-Jones 7
39 1 VIOLINO FANDANGO 4-10-3 ... Gracey

7-4 Celtic Brew, 3 Flying Dreamer, 11-2 Frozen Prince, 8 Violino Fandango.

2.45 WHEATON ASTLEY CHASE (Div 1: Part 1 novices £640 2m) (11)

5 0pp- BRACKEN DAWN 6-11-0 ... D Carcary 7
6 100 BRAVE JACK 6-11-0 ... Scudamore
10 0u2 CHANCER'S LAST 6-11-0 ... —
11 p0 COLONIAL PRINCE 6-11-0 ... Nuttall 7
12 034 DAGGERS DRAWN 6-11-0 ... Crank
13 00-4 DURHAM WARRIOR 8-11-0 ... Carvill
16 p0-3 GANESA 7-11-0 ... C Jones
17 /000 GREY ELF 7-11-0 ... Warner
19 000 HUMBER PRINCE 6-11-0 ... C Brown
25 /0pl RIGOLETTO 7-11-0 ... —
27 00p SERGEANT JIM 8-11-0 ... Mr Cambridge 4

4-6 Brave Jack, 4 Chancer's Last, 15-2 Daggers Drawn, 12 Ganesa.

3 15 MITTON CHASE (novice handicap. £1,260 3¼m) (16)

2 143 HARDY GLEN 10-11-7 Mr J Weston 4
4 434 MR KILTULLA 6-11-4 ... Blacker
5 -01p 400 NOCTE 7-11-3 ... Smith-Eccles
6 042 ROYAL BOWMAN 7-11-2 ... P Barton
9 001 MOUNT TEMPLE 6-10-2 ... Scudamore
10 0p0 TWILIGHT STAG 8-10-2 ... R F Davies
12 p-fp BALLYGARVEY 9-10-0 ... D Carcary 7
13 00f GRAND ARMAGNAC 7-10-0 ... G Gracey
14 44f EBONY BILL 7-10-0 ... A Webb
15 -3u4 VELVETSTOWN 8-10-0 ... Mr Crozier
16 0p0 SOLDIER BILL 9-10-0 ... —
18 fou GAME BID 8-10-0 ... M Bennion
19 f0f DON DOMINIQUE 10-10-0 ... Mr Weale 7
20 040 NORVUS KING 6-10-0 ... Keightley 4
21 f04 MANELEC 8-10-0 ... Crank
22 0p0 CREGG 9-10-0 ... Mrs S French

9-4 Royal Bowman, 3 Mr Kiltulla, 5 Hardy Glen, 15-2 400 Nocte

3.45 MARSTON HURDLE (Div II: novices: £345 2m) (18)

1 030 ALL OUR YESTERDAYS 5-11-10 ... Mr Low 7
2 1p LE FORBIN 5-11-10 ... Mr Weston 4
3 234 ST WILLIAM 5-11-10 ... Keighley 4
8 0 CELTIC GENERAL 6-11-0 ... Mr Pritchard
11 40 GUSTY'S GIFT 6-11-0 ... Smith-Eccles
13 0u0 JUST A KINSMAN 6-11-0 ... —
14 004 KINGS TOWN 5-11-0 ... G Jones
16 p40 MEREBIMUR 6-11-0 ... Dickins
18 000 MITIGATOR 6-11-0 ... R F Davies
21 003 THE REVEREND OWEN 6-11-0 ... P Hobbs
24 pp0 YEARS AHEAD 6-11-0 ... Hyett
31 0 DAY DREAM BELIEVER 4-10-3 ... —
32 000 DOBSONS CHOICE 4-10-3 ... —
34 EASTERN LINE 4-10-3 ... Scudamore
36 0 MINTESSA 4-10-3 ... —
37 230 MUSIC CITY 4-10-3 ... G Davies 4
39 00 SUBURBAN SUE 4-10-3 ... Brisbourne
40 SUGARAN 4-10-3 ... Hyett

7-4 St William, 4 Le Forbin, 5 Eastern Line, 7 Gustys Gift

4 15 WHEATON ASTLEY CHASE (Div II: novices: 2m) (14)

2 -401 THE GO-BOY 8-11-7 ... C Brown
7 0/ CHINA EXPRESS 8-11-0 ... O'Halloran
8 0u0 GRAFTY GREEN 7-11-0 ... McLaughlin 4
11 00-p LEVKIMMIS 8-11-0 ... Carvill
13 0-0p QUANTOCK ABBOTT 7-11-0 ... Hyett
15 030 ROINEVAL 9-11-0 ... P Barton
19 -203 TARTAN HEATH 7-11-0 ... —
20 p/p- TARYLIN 8-11-0 ... Dickin
21 p/0 TRUE LAD 12-11-0 ... Scudamore
22 04p0 VERY FRIENDLY 6-11-0 ... T Wall 4
23 ff0 WESTANOVA 10-11-0 ... Colin Price 4
24 0p0 YOUNG HAWK 9-11-0 ... Mr Clevely
25 0p0 GENEROUS BID 5-10-8 ... A O Hagan
27 000 JOLLY RED 5-10-8 ... —

5-4 The Go-Boy, 4 Tartan Heath, 6 Generous Bid, 8 Roineval.

4.45 WHISTON HURDLE (Handicap: £690: 2m) (22)

3 u-00 SUMMARY 5-11-9 ... Mr T Easterby
9 /000 BORN TO REASON 6-11-3 ... Mr A Sharpe 7
10 -30p DAME SUE 6-11-2 ... Blacker
13 0-0l KEYNSHAM 7-10-13 ... O'Halloran
14 022 LILAC LADY 6-10-13 ... M Nuttall 7
15 0/p4 PITHAM 8-10-13 ... Dr D Chesney
17 000 IF AND WHEN 7-10-13 ... —
20 120 ROSEY COVERT 6-10-10 ... —
21 004 PRIVATE CRAFT 5-10-10 ... Seward 4
22 202 LORD NORTH 5-10-9 ... I Cox 4
23 fd-0 KUDU KING 5-10-7 ... Mr Cambridge 4
25 300 ASHBURY LAD 5-10-7 ... C Brown
28 000 ANDY REW 9-10-5 ... R F Davies
30 410/ BIRD GAME 6-0-5 ... E Waite 4
33 004 SPACE LEADER 10-10-4 ... C Evans 7
37 020 SPACE SONG 9-10-2 ... —
42 200 REUTERMAN 7-10-0 ... Burke
43 up-0 GEORGE AGAIN 7-10-0 ... S O'Neill
44 p/0- LONELY VOICE 7-10-0 ... R Crank
45 10p/ HANLEY SWAN 10-10-0 ... Mrs D Tsakarisianos
46 074- GRUINARD 7-10-0 ... Hyett
47 u03 SHIRLEY GROVE 4-10-0 ... —

3 Lilac Lady, 4 Lord North, 13-2 Summary, Born To Reason.

5.15 WHEATON ASTLEY CHASE (Div I Part 2, novices. £640. 2m) (11)

1 031 FAR BRIDGE 8-11-7 ... Reilly
2 031 JAMES SEYMOUR 6-11-7 ... M Floyd
7 130- BRONCHO'S COUSIN 7-11-0 ... Hoare
8 000- CAMPING SITE 9-11-0 ... Hyett
9 0-0p CATHERINE BLAKE 6-11-0 ... —
20 00u JUBILEE IMP 6-11-0 ... Scudamore
22 0lp KILBARTH 7-11-0 ... Mr Low 7
28 p-f0 SUNS IMAGE 6-11-0 ... Mr P Webber
30 000/ TEPID TEARS 8-11-0 ... G Davies 4
32 004 ADMINISTRATOR 5-10-8 ... Gracey
33 -000 CALA CONTA 5-10-8 ... C Brown

2 James Seymour, 3 Far Bridge, 9-2 Broncho's Cousin, 8 Jubilee Imp.

SELECTIONS: 2.15 Celtic Brew, 2 45 Brave Jack, 3.15 Mr Kiltulla, 3.45 St William, 4.15 The Go-Boy, 4.45 Lord North, 5.15 James Seymour.

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SECRETARIAL

Today's television and radio programmes

Edited by Peter Lee

BBC 1

6.40 Open University: Josh's File; 7.05 A Dependent Future; 7.30 A Question of Control; 7.55 Closedown; 12.30 News After Noon, weather, with Michael Buerk, Linda Alexander; 12.57 Regional news (London and SE only: Financial Report, news headlines with subtitles); 1.00 Pebble Mill at One looks to the year 2000. Stutz Bear Cats provide vocal relief; 1.45 Bod (r) 2.00 Film: The Reluctant Astronaut (1967) American comic Don Knotts as a fairground attendent with no head for heights, but a father who launches him on a career in space Weightless comedy also stars Jeanette Nolan and Arthur O'Connell 3.30 Intergalactic Thanksgiving: Cartoon fantasy with songs by John Sebastian (remember the Loving Spoonful group?) 3.53 Regional news (not London)

3.55 Play School (also on BBC 2, 11.00am)
4.20 Secret Squirrel: Cartoon
4.25 Jackanory. Rula Lenska reads a Polish folk tale
4.40 The All New Popeye Show: Cartoons
5.00 John Craven's Newsround
5.10 Break in the Sun. Runaway girl joins a floating theatre troupe (r)
5.35 The Perishers (r)
5.40 News, weather with Richard Baker
6.00 South East at Six.
6.25 Nationwide. Your chance to tackle Tony Benn on Labour Party politics
6.50 Doctor Who. Alias Peter Davison in last quarter of Time-Flight
7.15 A Question of Sport. Last round of celebrity sports quiz
7.45 Taxi. Alex is determined to attend his daughter's wedding in cabby comedy
8.10 Flesh and Blood. John Finch's dynastic saga, set in a northern cement works, moves into its second generation with the boss's son now in control, and the convener's son inheriting his father's whistle and distrustful eye. Thora Hird and Bill Fraser are improbably cast as mother and son in this first of ten

9.25 Play for Today: Eve Set the Balls of Corruption Rolling. The class of '66, or thereabouts, reassemble after 12 years, for a disastrous reunion at a Catholic girls school. Marcella Evaristi stars in her own comedy for BBC Scotland (see Choice)
10.45 Everyman. What place has the Protestant work ethic now that unemploIyment and automation have seemingly pulled the ladder from under the 'Prodigal Son' theory? This thoughtful study of the traditional link between pulpit and profit begins with former BBC Economics Correspondent Graham Turner treading through the mangled remains of British Steel's Consett works, where those cast out on 1980 still feel almost sinful
11.38 News headlines
11.40 In Conversation. Richard Kershaw, in Moscow, receives the Russian response to his American Attitudes series. Soviet commentator Vladimir Posner replies.
12.10 Weather, closedown.

BBC 2

6.40 Open University: Instrumentation — Pressure Transducers. 7.05 Spreading Oceans.7.30 Grammar Rules. 7.55 Closedown. 11.00 Play School. Marjorie Darke's story, My Uncle Charlie, is presented for the under-fives by Lucie Skeaping and Ben Bazell, and repeated on BBC1 at 3.55. 11.25 Closedown. 3.55 The Old Boy Network. But it's the "old girl" herself, Doris Hare who takes the stage, to render a light-hearted account of her showbusiness life and loves. Recorded at the May Fair Theatre, London (r)

4.35 Seapower. Submarines in war and peace (r).
5.05 Anthony Rooley (lute) plays Farewell Fancy by John Dowland (r).
5.10 The Balby Street Kids. Culture in the coalfields thanks to an enlightened primary school policy in what used to be Yorkshire's West Riding Authority.
5.40 Laurel and Hardy in Hog Wild*.
6.00 The Waltons. John-Boy returns to the mountain, pursued by the past.
6.45 Spine Chillers. M R James tale told by Michael Bryant (r).
6.55 News, weather
7.00 Film: Beat the Devil (1954)* Director John Huston, and stars Bogart and Lorre happily mock their own black masterpiece, "The Maltese Falcon". In a port on the Med, a gang of weirdos wait for repairs to an African tramp steamer. Jennifer Jones, Gina Lollobrigida and Robert Morley are also there.
8.30 Russell Harty on stage with school-age showbiz hopefuls.

9.00 Pot Black. Experienced semi-finalists Doug Mountjoy and Eddie Charlton are there again, duelling over two frames for a chance to break against either Steve Davis or Cliff Thorburn in the final at the end of April.
9.50 Fields of Play. Ignoring the personal misery often caused by the addiction to gambling, producer Michael Dibb's study of our lemming-like attraction to losing watches the dice roll in Atlantic City and the bookmakers clean up in Liverpool on Grand National Day. Millions of pounds are lost in Britain on horses, dogs, numbered balls and soccer results. Yet the torn betting slips that carpet this report seem to be as effective a deterrent as confetti on wedding statistics.
10.50 Newsnight.
11.40 Closedown.

ITV/LONDON

9.30 World Famous Fairy Tales: Cartoon. 9.45 Wild Wild World of Animals: Army ants 10.10 Animated Classics. 10.55 A Big Country. 11.25 Paint Along with Nancy. Using a palette knife (r) 11.55 The Bubblies. 12.00 Button Moon. Puppets. 12.10 Let's Pretend. 12.30 The Sullivans. Serial. 1.00 News. 1.20 Thames News. 1.30 Crown Court. Fictional trial, underpinned by factual tragedy. A woman is accused of battering her baby. She claims she was only trying to shake him back to life. Writer Lesley Davies herself lost twin babies in 'cot-deaths'. More tomorrow. 2.00 After Noon Plus: News review of the month, plus Mary Whitehouse interviewed by Trevor Hyett. 2.45 The Sandbaggers Roy Marsden, spies (r). 3.45 Welcome Back, Kotter. John Travolta started here.

4.15 Dr Snuggles. Cartoon.
4.20 On Safari. Vet David Taylor braves the tropical camera lights in game show.
4.45 CB TV — Channel 14: Teenage magazine.
5.15 Emmerdale Farm. Matt and Dolly's evening out turns sour.
5.45 News. 6.00 Thames News.
6.20 Help! Middle report on lead poisoning promotes a free leaflet on protection at home.
6.30 Crossroads. Someone from the past upsets the motel folk.
6.55 Reporting London. Capital affairs programme.
7.30 Max Bygraves — Side By Side With — Roberta and Lily. The mystery is revealed: Mr Bygraves keeps his last edition in the family with a new addition, baby granddaughter Lily, and singer son Anthony. Roberta isn't flesh and blood.
8.00 The Glamour Girls. Duggie Brown doubles as a promotions boss and his latest client.
8.30 Top of the World. Last round in the London-Sydney-Miami link-up quiz before next week's Grand Final for a vintage Rolls-Royce.

9.00 Four in a Million. And the first of four plays tailored for the network by Central. Next up is the Trevor Griffiths skinhead play Oi for England. Tonight's, a comedy, enjoyed a good press when it was first staged at the Royal Court Upstairs Theatre last year. The titular quartet are luckless nightclub performers, played by Tracey Ullman, Debbie Arnold, Alan J. Clark and William MacBain (see Choice).
10.00 News at Ten, followed by Thames News Headlines.
10.30 The 1982 Academy Awards are just the excuse Hollywood adores to parade its most garish gowns and determined grins, whatever names are in those infamous envelopes. Unfortunately their contents are not revealed until after this page goes to print. But it's no secret that this year's favourites bear an unusally strong British interest, with Chariots of Fire, the British-made Reds and the British-backed On Golden Pond. American chat show king Johny Carson is master of ceremonies at the Los Angeles Music Center
12.15 Close with the Dean of Guildford, Tony Bridge, and a symbolic painting

CHOICE

Tracey Ullman, one in a million (ITV, 9.00pm)

● If it were a showcase rather than a play, FOUR IN A MILLION (ITV, 9.00pm) could not have been better-named. What a miraculous conjunction of ascendant stars it offers, with Tracey Ullman, Debbie Arnold, Alan J. Clark and William MacBain recreating their stage personae as four frustrated cabaret artistes, dreaming of Las Vegas while they perform secondhand acts in second rate clubs to the indifferent accompaniment of clinking glasses, cash tills and assorted noises off. This tele-version, by deviser-director Les Blair, comes abridged and expurgated for front room viewing, but keeps the essence of its comic quartet, caricatures laced with despair. Miss Ullman is the epitome of an empty-headed mother hen, clucking around fellow boarders Debbie Arnold (star-struck singer), Alan J. Clark (Cockney comic resigned to relative obscurity as long as it keeps him away from home) and William MacBain, disillusioned cynical Scot, unhappily playing Andy Stewart when he would rather be Freddie Starr. Little wonder that the first three have since found ready success on television. Mr MacBain deserves no less.

● Scottish cynicism also seasons the Play For Today, EVE SETS THE BALLS OF CORRUPTION ROLLING (BBC 1, 9.25pm), a corrugated comedy by Marcella Evaristi, who actually appears as one of a motley bunch of old pupils who assemble at a Glaswegian Catholic girls school for a calamitous reunion. The play casts them back to their schooldays, furtively discussing 'It' and eachother as they battle instinctively through pubescence. But twelve years later, their brightly promising futures now wear a sad matt finish. Debbie Wheeler, Sarah Collier and Janette Foggo also figure in an unfamilar, but highly endearing, cast directed by David Maloney.

● Margaret Horsfield's absorbing ARCTIC SPRING (Radio 4, 4.15pm) celebrates the return of the sun over Pond Inlet, after two months of winter darkness had enshrouded this remote Eskimo hamlet atop Canada's Baffin Island. Yet even here, seven hours' flight away from Montreal, the indigenous culture is under threat from imported pop music (often in Eskimo!), video films, and satellite television, relaying American football and our FA Cup Final. Now off-shore oil and acquisitive outsiders add to the list.

Radio 4

6.00 News Briefing.
6.10 Farming Today.
6.30 Today, including.
8.33 Yesterday in Parliament.
9.00 News.
9.05 Tuesday Call: 01-580 4411: Spring Gardening.
10.00 News.
10.02 From our own Correspondent.
10.30 Daily Service.
10.45 Morning Story: "The Thirteenth Op" by Paddy Batesdon.
11.00 News.
11.05 Thirty-minute Theatre "Reversed Charges" by Mervyn Watson. (†)
11.35 Wildlife. Listners' questions.
12.00 News.
12.02 You and Yours.
12.27 Detective. Stories of Crime and detection in London (3) "A Meeting With Anna."
1.00 The World at One: News.
1.40 The Archers.
2.00 News.
2.02 Women's Hour.
3.00 News.
3.02 Bleak House (last in series) by Charles Dickens. (†)
4.00 Ebdon's England (last in series) John Ebdon reflects on his fellow countrymen.
4.15 Arctic Spring. Margaret Horsfield visits Pond Inlet on the tip of Canada's Baffin Island to join in the celebrations of the coming of spring and 24 hour daylight.
4.45 Story Time: "The Last Resort" by Pamela Hansford Johnson (5).
5.00 Neews magazine.
6.00 The Six O'clock News including Financial Report.
6.30 Brain of Britain 1982 (s) A nationwide general knowledge contest.
7.00 News.
7.05 The Archers.
7.20 Medicine Now. What's new in medical science?
7.50 Animal Language (s) (9) Trespassers Will Be Sung At!
8.20 The Diffen. A fascinating insight into the day to day life of a family bound together by love and friendship.
9.05 In Touch. Magazine for the blind.
9.30 Kaleidoscope.
9.59 Weather
10.00 The World Tonight: News.
10.30 Semi-Circles with Paula Wilcox, David Wood.
11.00 A Book at Bedtime: 'Gorky Park' by Martin Cruz Smith (12).
11.15 The Financial World Tonight.
11.30 Today in Parliament.
12.00 News; Weather.
12.15 Shipping Forecast; Inshore Waters Forecast.

Radio 3

6.55 Weather.
7.00 News.
7.05 Morning Concert: Vivaldi, Rubbra, Chopin, Parry; records.†
8.00 News.
8.05 Morning Concert (continued) Rossini, Lutoslawski, Paganini, Janacek; records.
9.00 News.
9.05 This week's Composer Walton; records.†
10.00 Prokofiev and Schumann: Piano recital.†
11.00 Mozart: Serenade in B flat major (K.361).†
11.55 BBC Welsh Symphony Orchestra: Concert. Part 1: Elgar, Rachmaninov.†
1.00 News.
1.05 Six Continents.
1.25 BBC Welsh Symphony Orchestra Part 2: Debussy.†
1.55 Roger Steptoe and Vaughan Williams: Song recital.†
2.40 Mozart Concert.†
3.45 Cesar Franck: Chamber music recital.†
3.25 Jazz Today: Charles Fox with records.†
4.55 News.
5.00 Mainly for Pleasure.†
7.00 Understanding McLuhan. Russell Davies presents a documentary assessment of Marshall McLuhan's combative writing on aspects of the media.
7.45 Two Schumann Symphonies: Chicago Symphony Orchestra concert.†
9.00 English as She is Spoke. Howard Goorney looks at a Portuguese-English phrasebook of the last century.
9.10 Hindemith: Das Marienleben; Song Recital.†
10.35 The Living Poet. Patricia Beer reads a selection of her work.
11.00 News.
11.05 Sibelius on record.

VHF Only — Open University: 5.55am The Harpsichord in the Continuo. 6.15 Education Otherwise. 6.35-6.55 The Urban Demographer. 11.20pm Fundamentals of Statistical Inference. 11.40 The Digital Cimputer. 12.00 Louis Sullivan. 12.20-12.40am Welfare from Below.

Radio 2

5.00 Ray Moore.† 7.30 Terry Wogan.† 10.00 Jimmy Young.† 12.00 Gloria Hunniford including 1.45 Sports Desk.† 2.00 Ed Stewart including 2.45, 3.45 Sports Desk † 4.00 David Hamilton including 4.45 Sports Desk.† 5.45 News, Sport. 6.00 John Dunn including 6.45 Sports Desk.† 8.00 The Golden Age of Hollywood: A history of the American movie: 1943.† 9.00 Boxing Special: The European Light-Middleweight Championship from Wembley Arena, Maurice Hope v Luigi Minchillo 10.00 The Arthur Askey Show (new series): Special guest Des O'Connor. 11.00 Brian Matthew with Round Midnight, including 12.00 Midnight Newsroom, Weather, Motoring Information (in Stereo from midnight). 1.00 Truckers' Hour with Sheila Tracy.† 2.00 You and the night and the music with Charles Nove.†

Radio 1

5.00 As Radio 2. 7.00 Mike Read. 9.00 Simon Bates. 11.30 Dave Lee Travis including 12.30 Newsbeat; 12.45 Top 40 Discs. 2.00 Paul Burnett. 3.30 Steve Wright. 5.00 Peter Powell including 5.00 The Record Race; 5.30 Newsbeat. 7.30 Talkabout: Young people meet to discuss their views. 8.00 David Jensen. 10.00 John Peel.† 12.00 Close.

VHF RADIOS 1 and 2: 5.00 With Radio 2. 9.00 Listen to the Band featuring Band of the Royal Military School of Music.† 9.30 The Organist Entertains.† 9.55 Sports Desk. 10.00 With Radio 1. 12.00 With Radio 2.

World Service

BBC World Service can be received in Western Europe on medium wave (648kHz 463m) at the following times (GMT): 6.00 Newsdesk. 6.30 Gloria Hunniford. 7.00 World News. 7.09 Twenty-Four Hours: News Summary. 7.30 A World of Wind and Brass. 7.45 Network UK. 8.00 World New. 8.09 Reflections. 8.15 The Bridge of San Luis Rey. 8.30 The Haydn Years. 9.00 World News. 9.09 Review of the British Press. 9.15 The World Today. 9.30 Financial News. 9.40 Look Ahead. 9.45 Discovery. 10.15 Classical Record Review. 10.30 Smash of the Day: The Navy Lark. 11.00 World News. 11.09 News about Britain. 11.15 Letter from London. 11.25 Scotland this Week. 11.30 Sports International. 12.00 Radio Newsreel. 12.15 Famous Pianists of the Past. 12.45 Sports Roundup. 1.00 World News. 1.09 Twenty-Four Hours: News Summary. 1.30 Network UK. 1.45 A Jolly Good Show 2.30 Thirty Minute Theatre. 3.00 Radio Newsreel. 3.15 Outlook. 4.00 World News. 4.09 Commentary. A Word in Edgeways. 8.00 World News. 8.09 Twenty-Four Hours: News Summary. 8.30 With Great Pleasure. 9.15 Two's Company. 9.30 A Word in Edgeways. 10.00 World News. 10.09 The World Today. 10.25 Scotland This Week. 10.30 Financial News 10.40 Reflections. 10.45 Sports Roundup. 11.00 World News. 11.09 Commentary 11.15 New Waves 11.30 Meridian 12.00 World News. 12.09 News about Britain. 12.15 Radio Newsreel. 12.30 A Jolly Good Show. 1.15 Outlook: News Summary. 1.45 Report on Religion 2.00 World News. 2.09 Review of the British Press. 2.15 The English Idyll. 2.30 Jane Eyre. 3.00 World News. 3.09 News About Britain. 3.15 The World Today. 3.30 Discovery. 4.45 Financial News. 4.55 Reflections. 5.00 World News. 5.09 Twenty-Four Hours: News Summary. 5.45 The World Today.

WHAT THE SYMBOLS MEAN: † STEREO * BLACK AND WHITE: (r) REPEAT.

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REGIONAL TELEVISION VARIATIONS

BBC 1

Cymru/Wales 9.35 am I ysgolion: Daearyddiaeth: Brazil (5). 12.57 pm-1.00 News of Wales. 5.10-5.35 Rownd y byd. 6.00-6.25 Wales Today. 6.50-7.15 Heddiw. 12.10 am News and weather. Scotland 12.55 pm-1.00 The Scottish News. 6.00-6.25 Reporting Scotland. 10.45-11.35 Omnibus. 11.35 News and weather. Northern Ireland 12.57 pm-1.00 Northern Ireland News. 3.53-3.55 Northern Ireland News. 6.00-6.25 Scene Around Six. 12.10 am News and weather. England 6.00 pm-6.25 Regional News Magazines. 12.15 am Close.

SCOTTISH

As Thames except: 9.30 am Our Incredible World. 9.50 Film: A Doll's House (Jane Fonda). Screen version of Ibsen's play about a woman's right to assert her independence. 11.30-12.00 Tayside. 12.30 pm-1.00 Gardening Time. 1.20-1.30 News. 3.45-4.15 Looks Familiar. 5.10 Teatime Tales. 5.20-5.45 Crossroads. 6.00 Scotland Today. 6.20 Job Spot. 6.30 What's Your Problem? 7.00-7.30 Emmerdale Farm. 12.15 am Late Call. 12.20 Closedown.

GRANADA

As Thames except: 9.30 am European Folk Tales. 9.40 Joe 90. 10.05 Survival. 10.30 Anna and the King. 10.55 Bubbles. 11.00-12.00 Sesame Street. 1.20 pm Granada Reports. 1.30 Exchange Flags. 2.00 Crown Court. 2.30-2.45 Home Front. 3.45-4.15 Looks Familiar. 5.15-5.45 Diff'rent Strokes. 6.00 This is Your Right. 6.05 Crossroads. 6.30 Granada Reports. 7.00-7.30 Emmerdale Farm. 12.15 am Late Night From Two. 12.45 Closedown.

HTV

As Thames except: Starts 9.50 am Joe 90. 10.15 Survival. 10.40 Flintstones. 11.05 Stress. 11.35-12.00 International Bowls. 12.30 pm-1.00 Paint Along with Nancy. 1.20-1.30 News. 3.45-4.15 Looks Familiar. 5.10 Ask Oscar! 5.20-5.45 Crossroads. 6.00 News. 6.30 Comedians. 7.00-7.30 Emmerdale Farm. 12.15 am Closedown.

HTV CYMRU/WALES

As HTV West except: 12.00-12.10 pm Trehetiau. 4.15-4.45 Camigam. 5.10-5.20 Captain Nemo. 6.00 Y Dydd. 6.15-6.30 Report Wales. 10.30 Y Rhyl — Tref ar y Tywod. 11.15 1982 Academy Awards. 1.00 am Closedown.

GRAMPIAN

As Thames except: Starts 9.40 am First Thing. 9.45 Land of Lots of Time. 10.40 Our Incredible World. 11.05-12.00 Golf. 12.30 pm-1.00 Paint Along With Nancy. 1.20-1.30 News. 3.45-4.15 Looks Familiar. 6.00 North Tonight. 6.35 Crossroads. 7.00-7.30 Two of Us. 12.15 am News. 12.20 Closedown.

TYNE TEES

As Thames except: Starts 9.20 am Good Word. 9.25 News. 9.30 Bailey's Bird. 10.15 Film: The Crimson Pirate (Burt Lancaster) Spanish arms are sold to rebels fighting the Spaniards. 11.50-12.00 Sally and Jake. 1.20 pm-1.30 News, Lookaround. 5.15-5.45 Survival. 6.02 Crossroads. 6.25 Northern Life. 7.00-7.30 Emmerdale Farm. 12.15 am Life is Six to Four Against. 12.20 Closedown.

CENTRAL

As Thames except: 9.30 am 3-2-1 Contact. 10.00 Angling. 10.25 Portraits of Power: Churchill. 10.50 Entertainers: Barron Knights. 11.15 Champions. 11.35-12.00 Transglobe Expedition. 12.30 pm-1.00 Young Doctors. 1.20-1.30 News. 3.45-4.15 Looks Familiar. 5.15-5.45 Radio. 6.00 Crossroads. 6.25 News 7.00-7.30 Emmerdale Farm. 12.15 am Jazz and Blues: Blind John Davis. 12.45 Closedown.

BORDER

As Thames except: 9.30 am Friends of My Friends. 9.55 Joe 90. 10.20 Young Ramsay. 11.10 Untamed World. 11.35-12.00 Paint Along With Nancy. 1.20 pm-1.30 News. 3.45-4.15 Looks Familiar. 5.15-5.45 Radio. 6.00 Lookaround. 6.35 Crossroads. 7.00-7.30 Emmerdale Farm. 12.15 am News. 12.18 Closedown.

ANGLIA

As Thames except: 9.30 am Sesame Street. 10.30 Hands. 10.55 Demis Roussos. 11.25 Sail Amsterdam. 11.50-12.00 Wattoo, Wattoo. 12.30 pm-1.00 Gardening Time. 1.20-1.30 News. 3.45-4.15 Looks Familiar 6.00 About Anglia. 6.35 Crossroads. 7.00-7.30 Diff'rent Strokes. 12.15 am Tuesday Topic, Closedown.

CHANNEL

As Thames except: Starts 12.00-12.10 pm Button Moon. 12.30-1.00 Bygones. 1.20-1.30 News. 3.45-4.15 Square One. 5.20-5.45 Crossroads. 6.00 Channel Report. 6.30 Looks Familar. 7.00-7.30 Private Benjamin. 12.15 am Closedown.

TSW

As Thames except: 9.30 am Larry the Lamb. 9.40 Sesame Street. 10.40 Bailey's Bird. 11.05 It's a Musical World. 11.55-12.00 Captain Nemo. 12.30 pm-1.00 Bygones. 1.20 pm-1.30 News. 3.45-4.15 Square One. 5.15 Gus Honeybun. 5.20-5.45 Crossroads. 6.00 Today South West. 6.30 Looks Familiar. 7.00-7.30 Private Benjamin. 12.15 am Postscript. 12.21 Closedown.

YORKSHIRE

As Thames except: 9.30 am Larry The Lamb. 9.40 Sesame Street. 10.40 Patterns. 11.05 Wilderness Alive. 11.55-12.00 Captain Nemo. 12.30 pm-1.00 Looks Familiar. 1.20-1.30 News. 3.45-4.15 Calendar. 5.15-5.45 Benson. 6.00 Calendar. 6.35 Crossroads. 7.00-7.30 Emmerdale Farm. 10.00 News at Ten. 12.15 am Closedown.

ULSTER

As Thames except: Starts 12.00-12.10pm Button Moon. 1.20 pm-1.30 Lunchtime. 3.45-4.15 Looks Familiar. 5.15 Radio. 5.30-5.45 Good Evening Ulster. 6.00 Good Evening Ulster. 6.35 Crossroads. 7.00-7.30 Emmerdale Farm. 12.15 am News. Closedown.

TVS

As Thames Except: Starts 9.35 am Survival. 10.00 Story hour. 10.50 Tarzan. 11.45-12.00 European Folk Tales. 1.20 pm-1.30 News. 3.45-4.15 Looks Familiar. 5.15 Radio. 5.30-5.45 Coast to Coast. 6.00 Coast to Coast. 6.35 Crossroads. 7.00-7.30 The Real World. 12.15 am Company. Closedown.

Law Report March 30 1982 Court of Appeal

Injunction on goodwill of company

Darashah and Another v UFAC (UK) Ltd and Another

Before Lord Denning, Master of the Rolls, Lord Justice Ackner and Lord Justice O'Connor

[Judgment delivered March 26]

The goodwill of a company could be a valuable commodity and where it was about to be dissipated so as to be removed from the grasp of potential creditors it might be made the subject of a *Mareva* injunction.

The Court of Appeal allowed an appeal by plaintiffs, Mr Peter Nevins Darashah and his wife, Mrs Harriet Pushpulata Darashah, trading as Trace, of Over, Cambridgeshire, from the order of Sir Douglas Frank, QC, sitting as a deputy judge of the Queen's Bench Division, on October 2, 1981, that no order be made on the plaintiffs' application to continue the interim injunction granted on September 10, 1981, by Mr Justice Taylor, who had ordered that the first defendants, UFAC (UK), Ltd, of Newmarket, Suffolk, be restrained from disposing of any of their assets within the jurisdiction save in the ordinary course of business and in particular from disposing of the goodwill of the company save in so far as such assets might exceed £50,000.

Leave to appeal to the House of Lords was refused.

Mr Roger Toulson for the plantiffs; Mr Ronald Walker for the defendants.

The MASTER OF THE ROLLS said that Mr Darashah was an expert in animal nutrition and carried on business near Cambridge. He acted as consultant for a French company, Fralex Sarl, who were in control of an English subsidiary, UFAC (UK) Ltd.

On April 1, 1981, an agreement was made whereby UFAC (UK) were to pay Mr Darashah £1,500 a month with an annual bonus.

It was quite clear that that agreement was to last for an initial period of a year from April 1, 1981 to March 31, 1982.

Within a few weeks employees of UFAC (UK) approached an accountant and expressed concern as to the viability of the company.

As a result on June 5, 1981, Mr Darashah was dismissed without prior warning. It appeared that plans were made whereby if he had any claim as a creditor he would not be able to have any recourse to the UK company.

On September 11, 1981, there was to be a meeting of the board of directors of UFAC (UK) at the offices of the French company in France to consider and if thought fit approve the transfer of the goodwill of UFAC (UK), which was to change its name, to a new company which would then take the name of the previous company and carry on the business of UFAC (UK) as before but without the presence of Mr Darashah.

All would continue as before but Mr Darashah would be out and any claim he had would be against the old UFAC (UK) which would have no assets.

On September 10, 1981, Mr Justice Taylor had granted an injunction to restrain the English company from disposing of its assets otherwise than in the ordinary course of trade. Sir Douglas Frank would not renew it but retained it pending Mr Darashah's appeal.

Mr Darashah's accountant thought that the proposed arrangement was not in accordance with accountancy practice but was the machinery by which the claims of a particular creditor could be avoided.

The court had been referred to section 172 of the Law of Property Act 1925 ("voluntary conveyances to defraud creditors voidable"); *Lloyds Bank Ltd v Marcan* ([1973] 1 WLR 1387) and the new section 37 of the Supreme Court Act 1981 ("powers of High Court with respect to injunctions").

Z Ltd v A-Z and AA-LL (*The Times*, December 17, 1981; [1982] 2 WLR 288) showed the width of *Mareva* injunctions. There was material in the case from which it could be seen that this asset, the goodwill of a company, was about to be dissipated so as to be removed from the grasp of a potential creditor.

Two points had troubled his Lordship. Lord Justice Kerr in the *Z Ltd* case at p307B had said that a *Mareva* injunction should only be granted where it was likely that a plaintiff would recover judgment "for a certain or approximate sum" and there was reason to believe that there were "assets within the jurisdiction to meet the judgment".

The reference to a "certain or approximate sum" might be putting it too high. His Lordship had spoken of there being a good arguable case for substantial damages.

Was the goodwill of a company an asset sufficient to be caught by a *Mareva* injunction? Goodwill could be a very valuable commodity.

It appeared under different items in bank books. To be able to have a settled list of customers and connexions was a valuable matter.

Although it was a difficult point his Lordship would order that the injunction should continue.

Lord Justice Ackner agreed.

LORD JUSTICE O'CONNOR, also agreeing, said that the court was not interfering with the exercise of a discretion.

That point had not been reached in the judgment under appeal.

The injunction was continued until the trial of the action.

Solicitors: Vinters, Cambridge; Wild, Hewitson & Shaw, Cambridge.

Lump sum order on unemployed man's earnings

Burridge v Burridge

Before Mr Justice Anthony Lincoln

[Judgment delivered March 24]

Justices were entitled to make a lump sum order against a husband based on the husband's ability to pay out of earnings and the court was not prevented from making a lump sum order because it could be shown that the husband was not in possession of capital.

Mr Justice Anthony Lincoln so held in allowing an appeal in part by Mr Terence Burridge, of Margate, from orders made by Milton Keynes justices sitting at Newport Pagnall, Mr Burridge had been ordered to pay £500 lump sum to his wife and £125 to each of his two children aged three and two under section 2 of the Domestic Proceedings and Magistrates' Courts Act 1978.

Mr John Reddish for the husband; Mr Paul Coleridge for the wife.

HIS LORDSHIP said that on March 17, 1981 the justices had ordered the husband to pay £500 lump sum to the wife and £125 for each of the two children. He was also ordered to pay £8.50 a week for each child

At the hearing the husband had represented himself. He was unemployed but had given the justices an optimistic statement that he expected to be in a job very shortly. Payments under the order had been deferred

The husband believed that the order was conditional upon him obtaining employment and as he remained unemployed he failed to make any payments. It was not until the wife commenced enforcement proceedings that he consulted solicitors.

On his behalf there had been an application to vary and the justices had reduced the instalments to £2 a week and the children's maintenance payments to £1.50 a week.

For the husband Mr Reddish had urged that justices should not exercise the powers given to them under the Domestic Proceedings and Magistrates' Courts Act 1978 where it could be shown that a husband possessed no capital resources, it was submitted that justices should have regard to the words of Lord Denning, Master of the Rolls in *Wachtel v Wachtel* ([1973] Fam 72) in which his Lordship had said that "no order should be made for a lump sum unless the husband has capital assets out of which to pay it"

Mr Coleridge had drawn the courts attention to section 2 (2) of the 1978 Act which provided that a lump sum order might be made in order to meet liabilities or expenses reasonably incurred in maintaining an applicant or any child of the family before the making of the order. The wife had debts of nearly £800. The husband was also responsible for those debts, which had been reasonably incurred before the making of the order in March 1981.

The question arose whether the powers of the justices under the 1978 Act by implication or by public policy should be limited to those cases where it could be shown that a husband or wife was in possession of capital. His Lordship thought not. The powers should be left untrammelled as Parliament had provided in the section.

When they made the order the justices had applied the correct principles. They had considered the needs of the wife and the husband's capacity to pay. The husband had a potential earning capacity.

Mr Reddish had also submitted that the justices were wrong to make lump sum payments to the children as the debts were not the debts of the children. But the debts had been incurred to help to maintain the children and the court could not accept that submission.

For the wife it had been properly conceded that the justices should not have fixed an arbitrary date by which they expected the husband to be in employment. It would have been better to adjourn to a future date to see if the husband had obtained employment.

The husband was at present in receipt of social security benefit and it had been submitted that the court had failed to apply the principle in *Williams v Williams* ([1974] Fam 55) that when a husband was in receipt of supplementary benefit then the Supplementary Benefits Commission must have accepted that he was genuinely unable to obtain work.

To practitioners in the Family Division it was not unknown for a person to be in receipt of supplementary benefit and to have other sources of income.

The appeal would be allowed in part and remitted to the justices so that they could investigate the means and resources of the husband and whether the instalments should be reduced to a nominal order.

Solicitors: Godfrey Davis & Waitt, Ramsgate; Osborne Morris, Milton Keynes.

Hattersley attacks police chief

By Anthony Bevins, Political Correspondent

The authority of the police service could be threatened by the political activity of some chief police officers, Mr Roy Hattersley, the shadow Home Secretary, said yesterday.

He told a meeting of the Institute of Directors in *Sheffield that the Opposition* was afraid that the call for increasingly aggressive policing would further alienate *the police from the communities* they served.

Mr Hattersley said that while some chief constables would disagree *with him*, there were others, "the silent chief constables of Great Britain", who were anxious to preserve their traditional relationship with the public.

"They are the chief constables who suffer from the old-fashioned *prejudice that* senior police officers should get on with the job of prevention and detection, rather *than spend their time* in television studios", he added.

Mr Hattersley cited two examples *to illustrate his* criticism of chief police officers entering the political arena, But while he dismissed *Mr James Anderton, the* Chief Constable of Greater Manchester, in the most scathing terms, he indicated that he was extremely concerned about the more fundamental political activity of Sir David McNee. commissioner *of the Metropolitan Police.*

MORE criticism of chief police officers entering *the* political arena, But while he dismissed Mr James Anderton, the Chief Constable of Greater Manchester. in the most scathing terms, he indicated that he was extremely concerned about the more fundamental political activity of *Sir David McNee.* commissioner of the Metropolitan Police.

He said: "Of course in a free society Mr Anderton of Greater Manchester is perfectly entitled to make an ass *of himself if he chooses to do* so.

"Of him, I say only one thing. He is not typical of his profession. *Other chief* constables do not compare themselves to Jesus Christ, do not talk about their mission to save society or describe themselves as one of the four just men of modern life."

Mr Hattersley did add, however: "It is important that our opinion of chief constables in general is not determined by *this* very particular case."

The case of Sir David was rather different; for the whole machine of the Metropolitan Police had been mobilized to campaign for specific political objectives.

"They wanted the 'sus' laws preserved. They wanted the Royal Commission on Criminal Procedure to remove the suspects' right to silence. They want tougher police powers for London.

"*The latest manifestation* of their campaign was the publication of statistics purporting to show the racial breakdown of London street crime. In fact, the figures were statistical garbage and *proved nothing.* They did, however, capture the headlines, alienate the ethnic minorities and push the Metropolitan Police and the Commissioner into the centre of political controversy."

St Ives raises the roof

By Craig Seton

The lifeboat station at St Ives in Cornwall has been ordered by the local auth*ority to replace the roof on* its new boathouse because the tiles are the wrong colour.

Captain Eric Kemp, secretary of the St Ives lifeboat, said yesterdy: "It is a case of bureaucracy gone mad. People who give money to the lifeboat service do so to save lives, not replace perfectly good roofs". He estimated that it would cost the Royal National Life-boat Institution (RNLI) £500 to replace the tiles with the grey ones required by Penwith district council.

The boathouse was built during *the winter and paid* for from a legacy to the station to provide a new building for its bigh-spred *inshore lifeboat.*

According to the council, the red tiles contravened planning permission and had to be replaced to match surrounding buildings in the oldest part of the town.

Mr John Moore, chief executive of the council, said the red roof was conspicuously incompatible with other buildings.

No changing guard for blacks at the Palace

By Lucy Hodges

The Army has been asked by the Commission for Racial Equality to say why there do not appear to be any blacks in the Guards.

The CRE has written to the Army about this, but is not planning a formal investigation; *the Army has replied* and the commission says it is now studying the information it has recieved. It is understood the CRE will be publishing its findings eventually with possible recommendations.

Information about the ethnic origin of British soldiers is hard to come by because the Army says it does not count the number of blacks and whites it recruits. When asked about the number of blacks in the Household Division, an Army press officer said: "As far as we know there are no blacks or Asians in the Guards but there are no records.

"Altogether there are many thousands of black people in the service but no known number, and the only way we could find out is to parade people and count them. But the Army is quite clear that there is no colour bar, and that anyone who applies to join can join, if he meets the standards."

Major R. A. G. Courage, head of public relations for the Army's London District, said: "We don't do a register of every applicant, but from what I can gather there are not what you would call black blacks in the Household Division. That was some time ago."

The CRE's concern about the ethnic composition of the Guards does not arise from complaints received. It says it has received no complaints *from blacks who* tried to get into the Household Division and failed.

Its concern comes from a *book*, published last November, called *The Guards* written by Mr John de St Jorre. It said there were no black, *brown or yellow guardsmen* in the 5,500-strong division, though Britain now had about three million blacks.

A *senior officer in Germany* was quoted as saying: "Theoretically, the answer is no coloured people apply to *join the Household Regiments.* In pratice, of course, they do but it is felt that a black or brown face under a bearskin just wouldn't look right."

A Foot Guards officer is quoted as saying: "Blacks in the Household Division is a no-no subject. The Queen probably wouldn't mind though."



Mrs Else Roesdahl, a Danish lecturer *in Viking history*, at York with a war memorial featured in the "Vikings in England" exhibition.

No nuclear force, says Steel

Continued from page 1

long as was necessary to enact electoral reform".

Would that include support for a Conservative government, after all the alliance had said recently about Mrs Thatcher? "What I am saying is that we would not wish to involve ourselves in a Tory government. No, certainly not — but it might well be that there is a minority Tory or Labour government requiring our support to carry on the normal work of government.

"Provided they did not do anything inimical to the aims *of the alliance*, we would be willing to do that if we were the minority."

Mr Steel suspected, how*ever, that the initiative would* lie with the alliance when it came to looking for allies. "the chances of our getting *an overall majority are no* greater than those of the Conservatives or Labour."

He expected a one or two-year parliament, which would bring in proportional representation, followed by fresh elections. He thought *he detected a new willingness* in both the other main parties to consider *proportional representation*, *which* also had a bearing on the question of a future merger between the SDP and the Liberals.

"There is no question of our merging at all, this side of a general election", he said.

"One of the things that outsiders do not understand is that if we succeed in reforming the electoral system, then one of the strong arguments for a merger disappears", he explained. It was possible in a proportional system for people of different parties but similar objectives to stand against each other and for the voters to indicate a preference.

The Liberals now had "a very *serious problem*" because there was a tremendous influx of good prospective. Parliamentary candidates, at a *time when the* number of constituencies available to the party had been halved.

The pressure for Liberals and Social Democrats to work *together* so closely *might* disappear under proportional representation, he said. "On the other hand, *it* may be *that* we will find over the next two or three years that the experience of working together leads us into a merger.

"I have a perfectly open mind on that topic and I do not want us to waste precious time and energy debating it now, because at the moment we have a lot to do."

That may be so, but Mr Steel has brought the debate into the open. The Scottish Liberals, made clear that many of them are determined to preserve the radical traditions of liberalism, if not in the continued long-term existence of the Liberal Party, then at the very least in *the wholehearted* adoption of liberal principles by a future Alliance Party.

Do the Liberals therefore find their *new* bedfellows a bit to conservative? "Yes, there is something in that", he said with a smile.

Frank Johnson in the Commons

Opposition deploys its ultimate Silkin

One of the standard accusations of right wingers is that left wingers invariably blame the United States rather than the Soviet Union for accelerations *of the arms* race. In fact, left wingers are more even-handed than that carricature. They blame Britain as well.

Yesterday, the House debated a Government motion endorsing the Cabinet's decision to maintain a strategic nuclear deterrent and to choose the Trident 2 D5 missile system as the successor to Polaris.

The Labour Opposition had a wordy amendment on the order paper. This amendment was a veritable *compendium* of cliches on this kind of subject. It would have had us believe that the Trident purchase, among other things, escalated the arms race; broke the spirit of the Treaty on Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons; showed "complete contempt" for something called "the United Nations Second Special Session on Disarmament"; and doubtless, had any *reader persisted to the* end, drove young people to mugging in our inner cities; increased the incidence of lead *in* petrol; and did nothing for the one-parent family.

The Labour left, members of a party in which wording is all, seemed to be well-satisfied with such an amendment. Admittedly, the wording did also accuse Trident of "damaging the Unite Kingdom's conventional *defences*". The left would regard that as the only thing in the project's favour. But there is still a hard core of totally unrepresentative Labour MPs who are in favour of conventional forces. So the wording had to accommodate them as well. The amendment, then, was an essential part of the balance of terror within the Labour Party.

As if this were not enough of an offensive strategy, the official Opposition also deployed yesterday Mr John Silkin, the Shadow Secretary for Defence — the ultimate deterrent.

All sane people had lang known that if the terrible speech (in which Mr Silkin tried to reconcile the two wings of the Labour Party on defence policy) were ever used, there could be no survivors. So it proved.

One of the first structures to be obliterated in the blast was the defence policy of any future Labour Government. *This* was precisely what Mr Silkin intended. Unlike some Members, he is not incomprehensible because he is a fool. He is incomprehensible because he is clever. he had no idea what the policy would be. And he would not have wanted it to become known to his party even if he had known, which he did not.

He included many *suggestions* that the tiny British nuclear deterant was somehow an encouragement to the Soviet Union *to build* nuclear weapons. That would keep the majority of the party happy. But he also included some Hearts of Oak stuff about how the money *could* be better spent on conventional sea power. This was for the benefit of moderates, M.P.s with naval constitu*encies, voters* and other groups who are regarded by the Labour Party as minorities.

By the time Mr Silkin sat down, no one knew what a Labour Government's defence policy would be. From his point of view: mission accomplished.

Jury order for jobless man

A judge yesterday refused to excuse an unemployed man from serving on a jury. Peter Williamson, of Handsworth, Sheffield, had appealed against a decision by the Crown Court Office that he must serve.

He had written a letter saying jury service would prevent him looking for work and attending interviews. At Sheffiel.d Crown Court yesterday he said his circumstances had not changed.

Judge Walker said: "I sympathize with your position, but I am not prepared to excuse you these grounds.

THE TIMES INFORMATION SERVICE

Today's events

Royal engagements

The Prince and Princess ofWales open new buildings of St Gemma's Hospice, Harrogate Road, Leeds, 10. The Prince of Wales, Patron, opens "Vikings in England" exhibition, Yorkshire Museum, York, 12.

Princess Alice Duchess of *Gloucester, Colonel-in-Chief*, Royal Corps of Transport, visits Buller Barracks, Aldershot, 11.30.

The Duke of Kent, Patron, Leukaemia Research Fund, attends charity greyhound race meeting, White City Stadium, 7.15.

New exhibitions

Paintings by John Knapp-Fisher, Queen Elizabeth Postgraduate Medical Centre, Metchle Park Road, Edghaston, Birmingham; Mon to Sun 10 to 5 (from today until April 8).

Pioneers of Flight, Corinium Museum, Park Street, Cirencester; Tues to Sat 10 to 5, Sun 2 to 5, closed Mon (from today until April 25).

Exhibitions in progress

Photographs of the Antarctic, by H. G. Ponting, RPS National Centre of Photography, Octagon, Milsom Street, Bath; Mon to Sat 10 to 4.45 (until April 20).

Abdication to Corona;tion — how we used to live II, Cooper Gallery, Church Street, Barnsley; Tues 1 to 5.30, Wed to Sun 10 to *5.30, close Mon (until April 11).*

Photographs by the Central Association of Photographic Societies, Sutton Central Library, St Nicholas Way, Sutton; Tues to Fri 9.30 to 8, Sat 9.30 to 5, closed Mon (until April 3).

Paintings of the Warm South, Herbert Art Gallery and Museum, Coventry; Mon to Sat 10 to 6; Sun 2 to 5 (until April 25).

Paintings and sculpture by Bert Roberts, The Manor House, Ilkley; Tues to Sun 10 to 5, closed Mon (until April 4).

French Lithographs, 1860-1900, Art Gallery & Museum, Kelvingrove, Glasgow; Mon to Sat 10 to 5, Sun 2 to 5 (until April 12).

Historc documents and estate maps, Benliffe Gallery, Maidstone Museum; Mon to Sat 10 to 5, *closed Sun (until May 7).*

Painting by Carel Weight and Ernest Sargieson, City Museum and Art Gallery, Brunswick Road, Gloucester; Mon to Sat 10 to 5 (until April 17).

Picasso Prints, Printmakers' Workshop, 29 Market Street, Edinburgh; Mon to Sat 10 to 5.30 *(until April 17).*

Inner Worlds — works selected by Paul Overy, E. M. Flint Gallery, Walsall; Mon to Fri 10 to 6, Sat 10 to 4.45 (until April 24).

Krauze's Poland — political cartoons, Midland Group, 24-32 Carlton Street, Nottingham; Tues to Fri 11 to 7.30, Sat 10 to 5.30, closed Sun & Mon (until April 17).

Drawings by Jan Ingleby and lithographs by Angela Thorpe, Oriel 31, High Street, Welshpool, Powys; Mon to Sat 11 to 5 (until April 15).

Music

Concert by Herschel Ensemble, Guildhall, Bath, 8.

Concert to mark the closing of La Retraite High School, Colston Hall, Bristol, 7.30.

Harold Britton Silver Jubilee Concert, Town Hall, Walsall, 7.30.

Viennese Evening, London Concert Orchestra, The Hexagon, Reading, 7.30.

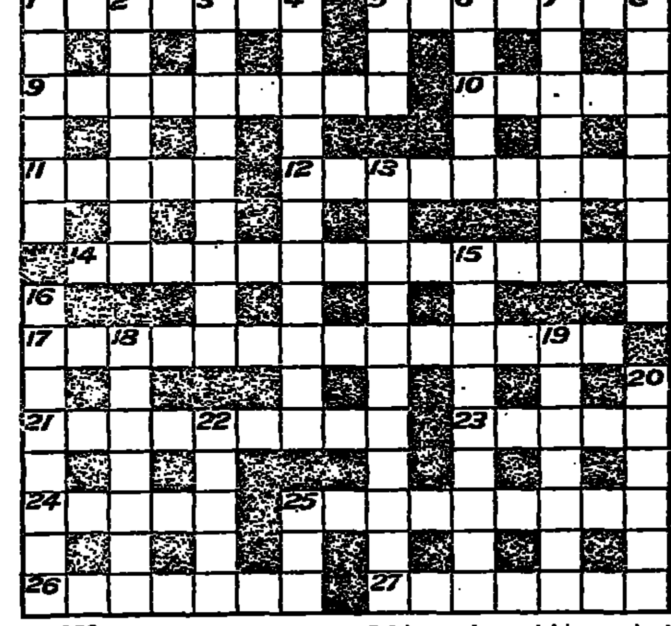
Talks, lectures

A History of West Yorkshire Textile Industry in the 20th Century, by Basil Moore, Industrial Museum, Bradford, 7.30.

General

London Is . . . Entertainment *exhibition train highlighting the* variety of theatre in London's West End and tourist attractions of the capital, Newcastle station, 10 to 5.

The Times Crossword Puzzle No 15,793



ACROSS

1 Estate needs to be settled without me (7).
5 Affinity for one of 10 when sailing (7).
9 "Die two months ago, and not —— yet?" (*Hamlet*) (9).
10 College men on board (5).
11 Old 20's book from this poet (5).
12 "Foggy" journey, for example? (5,4).
14 Lady Jane Grey's 24 such a sensation (4,4,6).
17 Leaves in disarray after this Much Ado? (5,2,1,6).
21 Jupiter heard but not seen on Sunday (9).
23 Artist's material changes — solidifies to some extent (5).
24 Sound means of control for 10, as a rule (5).
25 Circle two points — what has them all? (9).
26 *Reflecting* device allowed view of 10 (4-3).
27 Daily smile that brightens our outlook (7).

DOWN

1 Agreeable chaps may do so, paradoxically (6).
2 Swallow one drink (7).
3 Temporary effect of education cuts? (5-4).
4 Host in disorderly retreat — nine or ten are inert (11).
5 It's not beyond him — that's understood (3).
6 Like the truth about the emperor in his new suit? (5).
7 County part, originally (7).
8 *Means* to *admit* request for drink (8).
13 Reserves needed for cup-tie—press confused (5,6).
15 Presage row within Irish political group (9).
16 Coteries may be (8).
18 If you can't see him now, *you'd better soon!* (7).
19 Divert attention from the London-bound coach? (7).
20 Far from quick reaction from *this endangered animal* (6).
22 Poet who denied existence of Isle of Man? (5).
25 Beastly female arranges meetings Kipling ruled out (3).

Solution of Puzzle No 15,792

Sporting fixtures

Football: First, second, third and fourth division fixtures, see page 21.

Racing: Flat meetings at *Leicester* (2.15) and Ayr (2.0). NH at Wolverhampton (2.15) and Kempton Park (2.30).

Boxing: European light-middle and featherweight championships, Wembley Arena.

Parliament today

Commons (2.30): Fire Service College Board (Abolition) Bill and *Stock Transfer Bill, remaining* stages. Motion on the gas levy rate order.

Lords (2.30): Administration of Justice Bill, committee. Debate on EEC farm price proposals for 1982-83.

The papers

Law and order will never totally surpress crime and violence, says the **Daily Mirror** — mindless brutality will never entirely disappear, " but if the promises of a better society were carried out, the rise in other crime might be limited".

Welcoming the prospect of a car price war resulting from Ford's decision to cut UK prices, the **Daily Express** warns its competitors to "fight back or fold up".

Auction viewings

Sotheby's, Rainbow, Torquay: English, Continental and provincial furniture, arms, armour and militaria, mechanical music, scientific instruments, barometers, watches and clocks, 9.30 to 1 and 2.15 to 4.30.

Anniversaries

Charles Booth, social reformer, was born in Liverpool, 1840, and Vincent Van Gogh at Zundert, Netherlands, 1853. The Sicilian Vespers — massacre of the French in Sicily, 1282. Alaska was sold by Russia to the USA for $7.2m, 1867.

TV top ten

National top ten television programmes in the week *ending* March 21:

ITV

1 This Is Your Life, Thames (17.65m)
– Coronation Street (Wed) Granada (17.65m)
3 Coronation Street (Mon) (16.70m)
4 Starburst, Central (13.95m)
5 3-2-1, Yorkshire (13.80m)
6 Minder, Thames (13.75m)
7 Nature Watch, Central (13.60m)
8 Family Fortunes, Central (13.50m)
9 Crossroads, Central (13.30m)
10 The Gaffer, Yorkshire (13.25m)

BBC 1

1 Open All Hours (14.55m)
2 Logan's Run (13.45m)
3 Jim'll Fix It (13.05m)
4 Top of the Pops (12.95m)
5 The Kenny Everett Television Show (12.80m)
6 Holiday (12.35m)
7 A Question of Sport(12.30m)
8 Dallas (11.85m)
9 The Dukes of Hazzard (11.70m)
10 Emery (10.90m)

BBC 2

1 Marti Caine (9.40m)
2 Pot Black '82 (8.95m)
3 One Man and his Dog (6.85m)
4 The Mike Harding Show (6.45m)
5 Nancy Astor (Wed and Sun (6.25m)
6 Russell Harty (Tues) (5.85m)
7 The Waltons (5.40m)
8 Sherlock Holmes and The house of fear (5.25m)
9 Key Largo (4.85m)
10 Call My Bluff (4.35m)

British Audience Research Board.

The Pound

	Bank buys	Bank sells
Australia $	1.77	1.69
Austrian Sch	31.60	29.60
Belgium Fr	94.50	89.50
Canada $	2.26	2.17
Denmark Kr	15.24	14.44
Finland Mkk	8.60	8.15
France Fr	11.63	11.03
Germany DM	4.47	4.22
Greece Dr	115.00	108.00
Hongkong $	10.80	10.20
Ireland Pd	1.27	1.22
Italy Lir	2400.00	2300.00
Japan Yn	464.00	438.00
Netherlands Gld	4.94	4.68
Norway Kr	11.32	10.72
Portugal Esc	131.00	124.00
Sth Africa Rd	2.27	2.07
Spain Pta	192.00	183.00
Sweden Kr	11.00	10.42
Switzerland Fr	3.58	3.36
USA $	1.84	1.77
Yugoslav Dnr	98.00	92.00

London: The FT Index closed down 2.6 at 555.1

Roads

London and South-east: A30: *Lane closures* at Egham Hill, Surrey. A2: Roadworks on Old Kent Road near Albany Road. M1/M10: Numerous lanes likely to be closed overnight at short notice in Hertfordshire.

Wales and West: M5: Northbound lane closures at junction 15 (Bristol/M4). M4/M5: Interchange *slip roads reduced in* width. A40: Lane closures at Carmarthen.

Midlands and E Anglia: M5: Lane closures between Worcester and Strensham (junctions 7 and 8). M6: Lane closures between junctions 1 (Rugby) and 2 (Coventry). M1: Lane closures *from Newport Pagnell service* area to junction 15 (Northampton).

North: A641/A649: Only one lane open on Bradford Road and Wakefield Road, W Yorkshire. A57: Many lanes closed approaching Park Square roundabout, Sheffield. Extra parking restrictions and road closures this morning in NW Leeds because of royal visit.

Scotland: M9: Lane closures between junctions 6 (Falkirk) and 7 (Kincardine Bridge). M8: Lane closures between junctions 15 (Townhead) and 13 (Stirling). M74: Northbound lane closure between junctions 3 (Larkhall) to 4 (Hamilton).

Information supplied by the AA.

Sea

Cross-Channel ferry services back to normal today, but Sealink Holyhead/Dun Laoghaire crossing remains suspended.

Classical records

Best-selling records this week were: 1. Beethoven: Violin Concerto — Perlman (HMV ASD4059); 2. Viva Domingo (DG2531369); 3. Perhaps Love — Domingo (CBS 73592); 4. Nielsen: Symphony No 4 — Karajan (DG2532029); 5. Delius — he Fenby Legacy (Unicorn DKP9008/9); 6. Britten: Gloriana Suite — Segel (HMV ASD4073); 7. Borodin: String Quartets — Borodin Quartet (HMV ASD4100); 8. Dvorak: Cello Concerto — Cohen (CFP40361); 9. Walton Conducts Walton (HMV SLS5246); 10. Zemlinsky: Lyric Symphony — Maazel (DG2532021).

Weather

An anticyclone SW of Ireland will drift NE into N Britain.

6 am to midnight

London, SE, NE, E England, E Anglia: Cloudy with showers, some wintry; wind moderate to fresh; max temp 6 to 8C (43 to 46F).

Central S, SW, NW, Central N England, Midlands, Channel Islands, Wales, Lake District, Isle of Man, Borders, Edinburgh, Dundee, SW Scotland, Glasgow: Sunny intervals, dry; wind light to moderate; max temp 7 to 9C (45 to 48F).

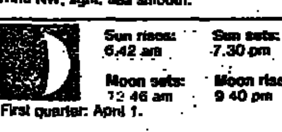
Aberdeen, Central Highlands: Dry, sunny periods; wind N, light; max temp 7 to 9C (45 to 48F).

Moray Firth, NE, NW Scotland, Orkney, Shetland: Cloudy with rain at first; wind N, becoming NW, light, max temp 8C (46F).

Argyll, N Ireland: Rather cloudy, dry; wind NW, becoming variable, light; max temp 9C (48F).

Outlook for tomorrow and Thursday: Mainly dry and generally rather cold; night frosts.

SEA PASSAGES: S. North Sea, Straits of Dover: Wind N, fresh or strong, decreasing light; sea moderate, becoming light. English Channel (E), St. George's Channel: Wind NE, moderate or fresh; sea moderate. Irish Sea: Wind NW, light; sea smooth.



Sun rises: 6.42 am. Sun sets: 7.30 pm.
Moon sets: 12.46 am. Moon rises: 9.40 pm.
First quarter: April 1.

Lighting-up time

London 8.0 pm to 6.9 am
Bristol 8.10 pm to 6.19 am
Edinburgh 8.16 pm to 6.17 am
Manchester 8.10 pm to 6.16 am
Penzance 8.20 pm to 6.32 am

Yesterday

Temperatures at midday yesterday: c, cloud; f, fair; r, rain; s, sun.

		C	F			C	F
Belfast	f	8	46	Guernsey	s	8	46
Birmingham	r	3	37	Inverness	c	8	46
Blackpool	c	7	45	Jersey	c	7	45
Bristol	c	5	41	London	c	6	43
Cardiff	f	7	45	Manchester	f	7	45
Edinburgh	c	8	46	Newcastle	c	6	43
Glasgow	f	9	48	Ronaldsway	s	8	46

Highest and lowest

Highest day temp: Bournemouth, 12°C; lowest day max: Fraserburgh, Bedford, 6°C; highest rainfall, Aberdeen 0.27in; highest sunshine, Prestwick 10.7hr.

London

London: Temp: max 7 am to 7 pm, 9C (48F); min 7 pm to 7 am, 7C (45F). Humidity: 7 pm, 78 per cent. Rain: 24 hr to 7 pm, 0.1 in. Sun: 24 hr to 7 pm, 4.8 hr. Bar, mean sea level, 6 pm, 1010.5 millibars, rising.
1,000 millibars = 29.53 in.

Satellite predictions

Figures give time of visibility, where rising, maximum elevation, and direction of setting. Asterisk denotes entering or leaving eclipse.

MANCHESTER: Cosmos 236: 20.36-20.41: W; 55NNE; ENE* and 22.15-22.16: WNW; 20WNW; WNW*. Cosmos 236R: (March 31) 4.32-4.37: SW; 60S; ENE. Cosmos 185R: 23.42-23.44: NE; 30NE; NE and (March 31) 1.20-1.25: NNW*; 35NNW; NE and 2.58-3.6: NW; 30N; ENE; and 4.39-4.48: NW; 40NNE; E. Cosmos 151R: 19.40-19.48: WNW; 35SW; SSE; Seasat: 20.37-20.46: NNE; 35NNW; WSW and (March 31) 1.29-1.34: ENE; 15NNE; N and 3.5-3.13: ESE; 40NE; NNW and 4.43-4.52: S; 50WSW; NW

* Predictions supplied by Earth Satellite Unit, Aston University.

NOON TODAY Pressure is shown in millibars FRONTS Warm Cold Occluded (Symbols are on advancing edge)

NOON TODAY

b—blue sky, bc—blue sky and cloud; c—cloudy, o—overcast, f—fog, d—drizzle, h—hail, m—mist, r—rain, s—snow, th—thunderstorm; p—showers; prs—periodical rain with snow. Wind speed in mph

High tides

	AM	HT	PM	HT
London Bridge	5.51	7.2	6.20	6.8
Aberdeen	5.31	3.9	5.52	4.1
Avonmouth	11.30	12.6	11.47	12.0
Belfast	3.09	3.4	3.53	3.4
Cardiff	11.13	11.6	11.30	11.2
Devonport	9.58	5.2	10.16	5.1
Dover	2.54	6.4	3.22	6.2
Falmouth	9.28	5.0	9.46	4.9
Glasgow	4.59	4.9	5.29	5.0
Harwich	3.49	4.0	4.21	3.7
Holyhead	2.14	5.4	2.40	5.4
Hull	10.29	7.1	10.49	7.3
Ilfracombe	10.14	8.8	10.29	8.5
Leith	6.56	5.2	7.14	5.3
Liverpool	3.11	9.1	3.38	9.4
Lowestoft	1.29	2.5	2.0	2.2
Margate	3.50	4.8	4.27	4.5
Milford Haven	10.29	6.7	10.49	6.5
Newquay	9.23	6.7	9.44	6.6
Oban	9.52	3.6	9.58	3.5
Penzance	9.05	5.3	9.24	5.2
Portland	11.12	1.8	11.23	1.7
Portsmouth	3.33	4.6	3.59	4.4
Shoreham	3.08	6.2	3.33	6.0
Southampton	2.51	4.5	3.15	4.4
Swansea	10.32	9.1	10.49	8.8
Tees	7.56	5.0	8.17	5.1
Walton-on-Naze	3.37	4.3	4.08	4.0

Tide measurement in metres: 1m=3.2808ft.

Around Britain

	Sun hrs	Rain in	Max C	Max F	
Ilfracombe	7.0	.01	9	48	Sun pds
Tenby	7.2	—	9	48	Sun pds
Anglesey	7.2	.02	9	48	Hail am
Colwyn Bay	6.0	.01	10	50	Sun int
Southport	6.0	.07	9	48	Sun pds
Blackpool	5.3	.03	10	50	Shower am
Morecambe	6.5	—	9	48	Sun pds
Douglas	9.5	.11	9	48	Sun
Aldergrove	5.1	.09	9	48	Sun
Eskdalemuir	8.7	—	9	48	Sun
Prestwick	10.7	.01	10	50	Sun
Abbotsinch	10.4	.02	11	52	Sun
Tiree	9.0	.06	9	48	Showers
Stornoway	6.5	.15	7	45	Shower am
Lerwick	6.0	.16	7	45	Showers
Wick	4.7	.11	7	45	Sleet am
Scarborough	8.0	—	7	45	
Bridlington	7.8	.01	7	45	Shower pm
Cromer	2.8	.03	7	45	Shower pm
Lowestoft	2.1	.02	7	45	Hail
Clacton	3.1	—	9	48	Shower pm
Margate	2.7	—	8	46	Shower pm
Folkestone	1.8	.13	10	50	Hail
Hastings	3.0	.01	10	50	Showers
Eastbourne	2.7	.02	10	50	Showers
Worthing	2.9	.15	10	50	Thund pm
Littlehampton	4.4	.08	10	50	Thund pm
Bognor	5.8	.03	9	48	Hail
Southsea		.02	9	48	Hail pm
Shanklin	5.2	.05	8	46	Showers
Bournemouth	4.7	.04	12	54	Hail
Poole	4.6	.03	10	50	Hail
Swanage	4.3	.08	9	48	Hail
Weymouth	5.8	.01	10	50	Hail am
Exmouth	8.1	.04	10	50	Showers
Teignmouth	8.2	.02	10	50	Showers
Torquay	7.3	.03	10	50	Hail pm
Falmouth	6.7	—	9	48	Sun pds
Penzance	7.2	—	9	48	Sun pds
Jersey	3.0	.04	10	50	Hail pm
Guernsey	3.8	.08	11	52	Hail pm

Abroad

MIDDAY: c, cloud; f, fair; fg, fog; r, rain; s, sun; sn, snow.

		C	F			C	F			C	F			C	F
Ajaccio	c	15	59	Copenhgn	c	6	43	Madrid	c	11	52	Rome	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Akrotiri	s	18	64	Corfu	f	19	66	Majorca	c	16	61	Salzburg	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Alexandria	f	19	66	Dallas*	c	10	50	Malaga	r	12	54	Sao Paulo*	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]